

# God's Assuring, Saving Grace

Luke 23:32-34, **39-43**

Series: "God's Grace"

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**Luke 23:23-43—Crucifixion**

**Luke 23:34**--Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.

**Matthew 5:44**, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;" -

## THE WORDS OF GOD'S ASSURING, SAVING GRACE---

**Luke 23:39-43**. "One of the criminals hanging beside Jesus hurled insults at Jesus. 'So you're the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself – and us, too while you're at it!' But the other criminal rebuked him, 'Don't you fear God even when you're dying? We deserve to die for our evil deeds, but this man has not done anything wrong!' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.' And Jesus replied, 'I assure you today you'll be with me in paradise.'"

The **five things you must know** in order to have assurance that you're going to heaven when you die ----What the thief on the cross knew---God's Assuring, Saving Grace---

He knew----

### 1. That he'd \_\_\_\_\_ after death

verse 40 "Don't you fear God even when you're dying?"

**Hebrews 9:27** "Everyone must die once, and after that be judged by God."

### 2. He had \_\_\_\_\_ God.

verse 41 "We deserve to die for our evil deeds."

**1 Jn 1:9** "If we confess our sins to him he's faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from every wrong."

**Romans 6:23** "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

### 3. That Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ man.

You've got to know that too. He says to the other criminal:

v.41 "We deserve to die for our evil deeds, but this man has not done anything wrong!"

**2 Cor 5:21** "God had Christ, who was sinless take our sin so that we might receive God's approval through him."

### 4. That only \_\_\_\_\_ him.

verse 42 "Jesus, remember me..."

### 5. That \_\_\_\_\_ him if he asked.

**Eph 2:8-9** "It is by grace you have been saved, through faith -- and this not of yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so no one can boast."

**Acts 16:31** "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved."

There are **four characteristics** of this salvation Jesus gives from the cross when he said,

v. 43 "Today, you will be with me in paradise."

1. "Today". That means salvation is \_\_\_\_\_.

2. "Today you will"., That means salvation is \_\_\_\_\_.

3. "Today you will be with me". That means salvation is a \_\_\_\_\_.

4. "Today you will be with me in paradise." That means salvation is a \_\_\_\_\_.