

INTRODUCTION:**1. JESUS WAS CRUCIFIED BETWEEN TWO THIEVES WHO MOCKED HIM (27:44; MAR 15:21).**

a. The Word of God prophesied that Jesus would be between these criminals (Isa 53:12).

b. Both thieves spewed their sarcasm and ridicule against Jesus (Mat 27:44; Mar 15:21).

2. ONE THIEF CONTINUED TO RAIL ON SUFFERING JESUS (LUK 23:39).

a. This thief's brutal sarcasm was in the same vein as the other mockers (23:39).

b. Jesus made no attempt to return the thief's mockery.

3. ONE THIEF EXPERIENCED A STARTLING CHANGE OF MIND ABOUT JESUS (LUK 23:40-42).

a. The second thief rebuked the first (23:40)

273 A King Revealed, a Thief Converted

TEXT: MAT 27:39-44; Mar 15:32b; Luk 23:39-43

b. He acknowledged his wickedness and Jesus' innocence (23:41)

c. He asked Jesus to remember him (23:42).

4. JESUS, AMID THE HORRORS OF SUFFERING, MADE AN ASTONISHING PROMISE (Luk 23:43).

5. APPLICATIONS:

(1) *The thief teaches us that the lowest of sinners is not out of the reach of God's saving grace.*

(2) *The thief teaches us that true conversion is always accompanied by Spirit-wrought repentance.*

(3) *The thief teaches us to own what we really are and to bow to Christ's Lordship.*

CONCLUSION: