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Pardon for the Penitent
Luke 23:32-43

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • December 1 & 2, 2018 • Luke, week 184 • Msg. 18-38 • Social Media: #NoGreaterLove

1. Recognize _____ (vv.32-34a)

2. Respect _____ (vv.34b-38)

3. Revel _____ (vv.39-43)

Luke 23:32 Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. **33** And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. **34** And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. **35** And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" **36** The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine **37** and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" **38** There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." **39** One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" **40** But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? **41** And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." **42** And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." **43** And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise." (ESV)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Psalm 145:9**. Why is an understanding of God's "common grace" (i.e., the undeserved mercy he provides in various ways to all) so important to keep in mind? Why do you think it is so easy to forget?
2. Read **Romans 5:9; Ephesians 2:1-3** and **1 Thessalonians 1:9-10**. How might you recommend a Christian maintain a proper view of the seriousness of the plight from which we were saved?
3. Read **Matthew 5:43-45** and **Romans 2:3-4**. How can a view of God's current patience and kindness toward the unrepentant be helpful in our evangelism?

4. Read **Ephesians 2:4-10**. What are some of the problems associated with losing sight of the amazing nature of God's grace toward the penitent?

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

December 2nd
Ezk. 47-48 & 1Jn. 1
December 3rd
Dan. 1-2 & 1Jn. 2
December 4th
Dan. 3-4 & 1Jn. 3
December 5th
Dan. 5-6 & 1Jn. 4
December 6th
Dan. 7-8 & 1Jn. 5
December 7th
Dan. 9-10 & 2Jn.
December 8th
Dan. 11-12 & 3Jn.
December 9th
Hos. 1-4 & Jude

This Week's Compass 20/20 Discussion Question

- Read **Philippians 3:1-9**. How can today's various brands of false teaching concerning how one is saved motivate us to zealously pursue Compass 20/20 (i.e., strengthening, training, & planting more Compass Bible churches)?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website (FocalPointMinistries.org).

- Msg. 16-07 – **The Fear of Perfect Justice**
- Msg. 06-14 – **A Crash Course in Repentance & Faith**
- Msg. 10-23 – **Perspectives on Fairness, Justice, and Grace**
- Msg. 08-32 – **Making Sure You're Repentant**
- Msg. 12-27 – **Responding to the King of Kings**
- Msg. 17-17 – **Loving God's Undeserved Mercy**
- Msg. 09-20 – **Celebrating Unearned Forgiveness**

This Sermon's Social Media Hashtag

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PastorMike

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

- Boice, James Montgomery. **Whatever Happened to the Gospel of Grace?** Crossway Books, 2001.
- Bunyan, John. **Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners.** Reprint. Baker Books, 1986.
- Kubala, Mark J. **The Execution of Jesus the Christ.** WestBow Press, 2017.
- Carson, D. A. **Scandalous: The Cross and the Resurrection of Jesus.** Crossway, 2010.
- MacArthur, John. **The Murder of Jesus: A Study of How Jesus Died.** Word Publishing, 2000.
- Pink, A. W. **Our Accountability to God.** Moody Publishers, 1999.
- Powlison, David. **God's Love: Better Than Unconditional.** P & R Publishing, 2001.
- Roberts, Richard Owen. **Repentance: The First Word of the Gospel.** Crossway Books, 2002.
- Ryle, R. C. **Repentance.** Amazon Digital Services, Inc. 2012.
- Sproul, R. C. **Faith Alone: The Evangelical Doctrine of Justification.** Baker Books, 1995.
- Stott, John R. W. **The Cross of Christ.** InterVarsity Press, 1986.
- Venning, Ralph. **The Sinfulness of Sin.** Reprint. Banner of Truth, 1997.
- Watson, Thomas. **The Doctrine of Repentance.** Reprint. Banner of Truth, 1987.
- Zugibe, Frederick. **The Crucifixion of Jesus: A Forensic Inquiry.** M. Evans & Co., 2005.