

## CONVERSATIONS WITH JESUS

PART ELEVEN: A TRIUMPHANT MOMENT

Luke 23:32-43 ♦ Pastor Dean Lancaster ♦ March 24, 2024

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This conversation is one of ultimate triumph during great loss. One sinner found life but the other went to eternal punishment. We see the path every follower of Jesus must take to escape the punishment every person deserves.

### The Progression of a Follower:

#### From Scoffer

**Luke 23:32–33** *Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.*

All who meet Jesus start from the same place.

**Matthew 27:44** *In the same way the robbers who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.*

All who meet Jesus have a choice they can make.

Our eternal destiny is connected to our understanding of who Jesus is.

#### Then Seeker

**Luke 23:39** *One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!”*

Every follower must admit they are guilty of breaking God’s laws.

**Luke 23:41a** *We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve.*

Every follower of Jesus must realize their guilt deserves punishment.

**Luke 23:41b** *“But this man has done nothing wrong.”*

Every follower must realize that Jesus is perfect.

## To Surrendered

The surrendered must realize there is more to life than this planet.

**Luke 23:34** *Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.*

The surrendered must seek forgiveness.

**Luke 23:42** *Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”*

The surrendered must acknowledge Jesus as the only way to to escape God’s eternal wrath.

## Take this with you...

Many on that day had the same opportunity as the thief, who chose to believe Jesus.

The prideful sinner missed it.

The religious leaders missed it

The humble one found it.