

**Today's Message: "Love's Last Words"**

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

**Not by what we do...**

*For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy... (Titus 3:3-5, ESV)*

*...we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ... (Galatians 2:16, ESV)*

*For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV)*

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Pastor Kent Chevalier

March 13, 2016

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***Take some advice from a heavenly thief...***

"No one gets in automatically. It's Jesus who gets you here. Heaven is His home. He holds the key. He opens the door, and if you become His, heaven will be yours. Heaven will not become yours by living a good life. I didn't do that...but I'm here! Heaven will not be yours by being religious. I never had the opportunity to attend a church. I was never baptized. Nor did I ever receive the bread and the wine. None of these things were possible for a man hanging on a cross. Yet Jesus said to me, 'Today you will be with me in Paradise,' and He was true to His word. My story proves that getting into heaven depends on Jesus, and on Jesus alone. ~ Colin S. Smith, *Heaven, How I Got Here: The Story of the Thief on the Cross*

***Jesus paid it all  
All to Him I owe  
Sin had left a crimson stain  
He washed it white as snow***

"Continue to reflect on Jesus' final words each day leading up to Easter by subscribing to devotional and small group content delivered via email to your inbox each weekday. Text NORTHWAY to 42828 to subscribe."

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