

The background of the slide is a painting of three crosses on a hill. The scene is set at sunset or sunrise, with a warm, golden-orange glow in the sky. The crosses are dark silhouettes against the bright light. The central cross is the tallest and most prominent, flanked by two shorter crosses. The figures on the crosses are dark and indistinct. The overall mood is solemn and reflective.

“What About The Thief On The Cross?”

Luke 23:39-43

How Is One Saved?

By Faith

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

How Is One Saved?

By Grace Through Faith

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹not of works, lest anyone should boast.

How Is One Saved?

By Obedience To Christ

Hebrews 5:8-9

⁸though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. ⁹And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him

How Is One Saved?

Not By Faith Only

James 2:24, 26

²⁴ You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only...²⁶ For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

How Is One Saved?

By Repenting Of Our Sins

Acts 17:30

Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent

How Is One Saved?

By Confessing Christ

Acts 8:36-38

³⁶Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, “See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?” ³⁷Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” ³⁸So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

How Is One Saved?

By Obeying Christ In Baptism

1 Peter 3:21

There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ

How Is One Saved?

Can It Be Like The Thief On The Cross?

- Does this one case nullify the plain teaching of Jesus Christ and His inspired apostles?
- Can it be proven that the thief on the cross was not baptized or even required to be baptized with Christ's baptism?
- Is the salvation of the thief on the cross a pattern for our salvation today?

What Do We Know About This Thief?

- He Was A Criminal (cf. **Mark 15:27**)

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- He Takes Personal Responsibility
- He Recognizes The Innocence Of Jesus
- He Knew Jesus Had A Kingdom

Was This Thief Baptized?

Mark 1:4-5

⁴John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. ⁵And all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

Was This Thief Baptized?

John 4:1

Therefore, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John

Was This Thief Baptized?

Luke 9:1-2

¹Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. ²He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

Was This Thief Baptized?

Luke 10:1 ff

After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

Was This Thief Baptized?

Revelation 22:18-19

¹⁸For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; ¹⁹and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

Jesus Had Power While On Earth To Forgive Sins

Mark 2:10

But that you may know that the
Son of Man has power on earth
to forgive sins

Jesus Had Power While On Earth To Forgive Sins

Luke 7:36-50

Jesus Had Power While On Earth To Forgive Sins

Mark 10:21

Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.”

Be Careful Of Faulty Logic

Some Will Reason This Way:

- Jesus was baptizing people before His death...
- And, He saved the thief on the cross without baptizing him...
- Therefore, baptism is not essential for salvation.

Be Careful Of Faulty Logic

Could We Also Conclude Then...

- Jesus went about saving people before He died and shed His blood...
- He saved the thief before He died...
- Therefore, His death and shed blood are not essential to our salvation?

Who Is Willing To Accept It?

Jesus Had Power While On Earth To Forgive Sins

John 21:15-22

We Live Under A Different Covenant

Hebrews 9:16-17

¹⁶For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. ¹⁷For a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator lives.

We Live Under A Different Covenant

Acts 1:1-3

¹The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, ²until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, ³to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

We Live Under A Different Covenant

Luke 24:46-49

We Live Under A Different Covenant

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

We Live Under A Different Covenant

The background of the slide features three dark silhouettes of crucifixions on a hillside, set against a lighter, hazy background. The central crucifixion is the most prominent, flanked by two others. The figures are positioned on a dark, rounded mound of earth.

Acts 2

We Live Under A Different Covenant

- Did the thief believe that Jesus was raised from the dead and ascended to the right hand of God?
 - Must we? (**1 Corinthians 15:1-4, 14-19**)
- Could the thief be baptized into Jesus' death?
 - Must we? (**Romans 6:3-4**)
- Could the thief be baptized into "one body"?
 - Must we? (**1 Corinthians 12:13**)

The background of the slide features three wooden crosses on a hillside, silhouetted against a warm, golden sunset sky. The central cross is the most prominent, with a figure on it. The other two crosses are positioned to the left and right, slightly behind the central one. The overall mood is solemn and reflective.

Whose Cross
Will You Run To?