

***Sermon Title:* THE TWO CRIMINALS**

Date: March 30, 2025 - Luke 23:32-43

Central Idea: Only the hope of forgiveness can produce repentance. Is your hope in Jesus?

Introduction:

Much in Luke's account of the crucifixion is found only in this Gospel, and a careful comparison of his story with the other three is rewarding. After Peter's denial (22:54-62) came the accusation before Pilate (23:1-7), the appearance before Herod (vv. 8-12), and the judgment of Pilate (vv. 13-25). Then followed the crucifixion (vv. 26-43) and the death of Jesus (vv. 44-49).

I. The Mockers vv. 32-38

II. The Hater v. 39

III. The Hopeful vv. 40-43

1. He confessed his guilt v. 41
2. He recognized Jesus' innocence v. 41
3. He sought mercy v. 42
4. He confessed Jesus' lordship v. 42
5. He was given gospel hope v. 43

Conclusion:

The Lord speaks only one line in the entire conversation (v. 43). Put the scenes together:

- Judgment is coming.
- God is forgiving.
- Paradise is offered!

Turn the bullet points above into your own prayer to the Lord Jesus; enjoy His words of reassurance in verse 43; and respond with a hymn of praise.