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## THREE CROSSES

### Luke 23:32-43

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Central Idea: The cross is the greatest demonstration of Jesus' holiness and love. Are you trusting Jesus for salvation?

Introduction:

As we look at Calvary, we see Jesus dying there with two thieves: one on either side. One is dying for sin, one is dying in sin, and one is dying to sin. Two were completely guilty; one was completely innocent. Two were paying their debt to society; one was paying OUR debt of sin. The cross is the greatest demonstration of Christ's holiness and love.

#### I. Two Men in the Same Condemnation, vv. 39-40

1. Mockery of the first thief, v. 39
2. Observations of the other thief, v. 40
3. Difficult truth: all are equally guilty before God.

#### II. Two Men Who Ask Jesus for Salvation, vv. 39, 42

1. Both thieves ask Jesus to save them.  
"Save yourself and us."  
"Jesus, remember me."
2. The first asked to be saved from the situation.
3. The other asked to be saved from his sin.

#### III. The Purpose of Calvary Is Salvation.

1. One thief prayed for forgiveness, and Jesus answered, v. 43.
2. Jesus had time to win one more soul!

Conclusion:

Questions answered that day:

- Can one be saved in his dying hour?
- Can one be saved after a life of wickedness?
- Can one be saved without baptism or communion?
- Can one be sure of heaven after death?