To Seek and To Save #10 “Savior” Luke 23: 32-49

**Intro**: We had 2 hours to visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art (NYC)

 Walking up steps, no way… huge… 2,000 European paintings!

 Walk through the museum; then sit and See Study Enjoy **One**

 **t/s –** Our Plan today… Luke’s account of Cross.

**Luke 23: 32-49** (Luke’s Eye-witness observations… 3 remarks)

Let’s settle in and Study one part; **Vs. 39-43** (Read Again)

The Authorities thought they would add to the humiliation of Jesus by Crucifying Him between two criminals. In Truth, they fulfilled Isaiah’s Prophecy --- *He was numbered with the Transgressors* --- and Enhanced His Glory. **The Glory of Jesus Is His Power to Save**.

The Angel told Mary to name her son, Jesus, ***Savior***. Zachariah ***Salvation*** to His people through the forgiveness of their sins. Jesus said entered Jerusalem, I have come to seek and to **SAVE** the Lost.

At the Cross, Four times… *Save, Save, Save, Save*… **Can Jesus Save**?

**The Glory of Jesus Is His Power to Save.**

*The crucified thief was our Lord’s last companion on earth; and His First companion in Heaven!* – **Spurgeon**

*I think he took him with him as a specimen of what He meant to do. He seemed to say to all the heavenly powers, “I bring a sinner with Me; he is a sample of the rest.”*

**ILL** – Ammon Taylor at door of parsonage with bowl of blackberries

 ***First Fruits, there are lot’s more to come***!

**The Glory of Jesus Is His Power to Save.**

This makes me shout hallelujah to Jesus… (Say, “Glory!”)

**Jesus Responds when Broken Sinners Cry Out to Him to Help.**

Exp – The Criminal had never encountered Jesus before this day.

 Admit His own Guilt before a holy God, condemned.

 Jesus truly is the King (like the sign says…mocking)

 The King will have a Kingdom, a Future…

 More… Jesus kept saying, “*Father Forgive them*” Forgive me?

 ***Repentance and Faith***

 So He gathered his breathed and Cried out for Help. (42)

 ***Jesus Answered Him.***

 In the midst of all the noise, all the voices.. Jesus heard Him.

**ILL –** Breakfast with Pastor… Waitress, rough, condemnation.

 If Jesus walked in that door, do you know who he would want to talk to first? You. Special love for you!

App – Friend, He will hear you today.

**Jesus Responds with Extravagant Grace.**

Exp – The Criminal only asked to be Remembered in the Kingdom.

 Do not cast me aside, Ignore me; kick me out; condemn me.

* Jesus gave more than He hoped ***Today, Paradise, WITH ME!***

**ILL** – Prodigal Son, “Make me as one of your hired men, Father.”

 Embraced as a Son; killed the fattened Calf; Rejoicing!

**App** – He Gives us more than we ask for or imagine.

All of Heaven Rejoices when ONE lost sinner repents

**Jesus Responds with the Confidence of a King.**

Exp – **Vs. 43** – ***Truly I say to you, Today you Shall be***…

 No hesitation, No hedging… Clear, certain Promise.

 You have the Word of the King.

**The Glory of Jesus Is His Power to Save.**

APP – Evangelism Glorifies Jesus… Display His Power to Save!

The Crucified Criminal is **a Typical Example** of a Sinner Saved by Grace.

You might be thinking, This is a great sermon for someone in real trouble --- Addict, Felon, someone who has nothing to offer --- but I am not really like this convicted, condemned criminal. I am more like Nicodemus or maybe the Rich Young Ruler…

Jesus rebuked Nicodemus and the Ruler went away Sad. He responded quickly to the Cry of this broken sinner. He Saved him.

Arthur Pink’s famous sermon on this Text.

*He could not walk the paths of righteousness for there was a nail through either foot. He could not perform any good works for there was a nail through either hand. He could not turn over a new leaf and live a better live for he was dying…. And so, your feet and hands must be nailed to the Cross.*

If you are ever to be saved, it will be because Jesus Heard your humble broken cry for help. He came to Save Sinners.

**The Glory of Jesus Is His Power to Save.**

Cowper Hymn about the Cross, “There Is a Fountain” (7 vss.)

*The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in His day,*

 *And there may I, though vile as he, wash all my sins away.*

*When this poor lisping, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave,*

 *Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I’ll sing Thy Power to Save!*