

The Seven Sayings on the Cross, #2

- I.** After four trials that lasted all night, Jesus was crucified at 9:00am (Mk. 15:25).
 - 1. An ignoble death.
 - 2. His first saying, “Forgive them ...” spread the guilt of His death beyond the Roman soldiers to the whole world.
- II.** The second saying, “Truly I say unto you, today you shall be with me in paradise” (Lu. 23:43).
 - 1. The thieves talk.
 - 2. One thief believes before the supernatural events: darkness, quaking of the earth.
 - 3. What kingdom is the thief referring to?
 - 1) The Kingdom from the Heavens (Dan. 4:25-26, 32; Mt. 13:3; 4:17; 13:28, 39).
 - 2) Jesus as the Old Testament’s “Anointed One” (Mt. 16:16; Ps. 2:2).
 - 4. Jesus does not mention His kingdom; the thief would not have to wait for its implementation.
- III.** Where is Paradise?
 - 1. Not in Heaven (Jn. 3:13).
 - 2. In the center of the earth (Mt. 12:40).
 - 3. Three compartments in Sheol (Duet. 32:22).
 - 1) Lowest—unsaved (Ps. 86:13).
 - 2) Gulf—spirit beings (Is. 14:15).
 - 3) Upper—saved (Ps. 139:8).
 - 4. An historical account in the center of the earth (Lu. 16:19-23).
 - 5. Jesus’s descension to the center of the earth (Eph. 4:9).
 - 6. Jesus with the thief the same day—predicts same day death.
- IV.** Salvation of the thief.
 - 1. No works.
 - 2. Through faith (Jn. 8:24).