

Between Two Criminals

(Luke 23:32, 39-56)

Between Two Criminals (v. 32, 39-43)

- As Jesus was being crucified, He was not the only one being executed by the Romans
 - A criminal was on each side of Him
- One of the criminals mocked Jesus
- The other rebuked him the mocker
 - Seeing himself for who he was: guilty
 - Seeing Jesus for who He is: innocent
- This criminal showed faith in Jesus that scarcely anyone else had (v. 42)
- His faith in Jesus secured him a place in eternity
 - Even though he could do nothing for Jesus

The End? (v. 44-56)

- Those gathered were shaken by what they had seen as Jesus died
- And they lowered Jesus from the Cross and buried Him, thinking it was the end
- But there was one person who knew it wasn't the end
 - The criminal who put His trust in Jesus

So What?

- We are all like one of the two criminals
 - We either see ourselves for who we are, guilty in need of forgiveness
 - Or we join the mockers
- We have nothing to offer Him
 - And yet He loves and accepts us anyway when we put our faith in Him