

"Through the Eyes of a Criminal"

Luke 23:32-43

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April 10, 2011

What will you tell God when you stand before Him someday, and He asks you, "Why should I let you into my kingdom?"

What can we learn from Jesus' interaction with a criminal?

Observation 1: Our eternal destiny is not based on our earthly performance. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

"Jesus assured the most religious people of his day that they weren't good enough to enter God's kingdom, while promising criminals and prostitutes that God would gladly welcome them."

Andy Stanley, *How Good is Good Enough?*, Multnomah Books, Colorado Springs, CO, 2003, p. 61.

Observation 2: Confession and Repentance are key components to being with Jesus in paradise. (Acts 2:37-38; 2 Corinthians 7:10)

Observation 3: Acceptance or rejection of Jesus is critical to our eternal destiny. (John 3:16-18, 3:36; Romans 10:9-10)