

Dying Words to
Live By –
*The Seven Sayings of Jesus
from the Cross*

A Sermon Series for Lent 2022



The Promise of a Lifetime

Luke 23:35-43

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The second
"Saying from the Cross"
is an answer to a prayer:
*"Today, you will be with
Me in Paradise."*



Only Luke records
this conversation
between Jesus and
the thief on the cross.



A Commitment to Accuracy

"Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word..."



Therefore, since I myself
have carefully investigated
everything from the
beginning, it seemed good
also to me to write an
orderly account for you,



most excellent Theophilus
so that you may know the
certainty of the things you
have taught.”

Luke 1:1-4



Whatever his crime was,
the thief felt he deserved
to be executed.



Did the thief accuse
himself after seeing the
innocence of Jesus?



What the thief thought
of Jesus:

1. He believed Jesus would
live beyond death.



2. He believed Jesus was going to a place he himself would not be able to go.



3. He believed Jesus was
some sort of king going
to His kingdom.



4. He believed in the kindness of Jesus of whom he could ask a personal favor.



Jesus begins His promise
to the thief by "Truly,"
meaning "Listen!"



Jesus' promise, in a few
words, was packed
with meaning.



1. Jesus assured the man
that life will go on past
death.



2. Jesus assured the thief
he would enjoy
fellowship with Jesus
after death.



“Hell is other people.”
from the play, No Exit
by Jean-Paul Sartre.



Two beliefs that make
being with people a joy:
“I am a blessing to them.”
“They are a blessing to
me.”



There will be countless
millions of people to enjoy
throughout eternity.



3. Jesus promised the man
that the next world will
be "Paradise."



Everything you've ever
considered to be
"paradise" was made by
God. He can do it again,
even better.



Jesus wouldn't have
mentioned heaven if He
didn't want us to think
about it occasionally.



“Won’t heaven be
wonderful?”



4. Jesus assured the man
that Paradise was in his
IMMEDIATE future.



5. Jesus assures us all
that we, too, have a
chance at Paradise.



Jesus didn't offer Paradise
to the other thief
on the other cross.



The power of Jesus
that the thief was
most taken by was
the goodness of Jesus.



Getting into heaven isn't
a matter of saying
"magic words."



Getting into heaven is all
about being open and
responsive to the
goodness of God.



We are all constantly
surrounded by goodness –
God's goodness.



"God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgement,



because in this world we
are like Him.”

1 John 4:16-17



We get the invitation to
Paradise when we decide
to “live in love.”



Those who through faith
and repentance open
themselves to God's
goodness have paradise
in their future.

