

## Introduction

- In an effort to prove that we can be saved by believing in Jesus without being baptized for forgiveness of sins, many point to the thief on the cross
- Jesus pronounced that one of the two thieves crucified with Him would be with Him in Paradise that day

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## What About The Thief On The Cross?

Can we be saved today by believing in Jesus without being baptized for forgiveness of sins?

Luke 23:33-43

## Introduction

- The Scriptures do not say if the thief had been baptized or not
- But, it is clear through the words of Jesus His salvation is assured
- But, does this account of the saving of the thief prove we can be saved today without baptism for forgiveness of sins?

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## The saving of the thief on the cross

Luk 23:33 When they came to the place called The Skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left.

Luk 23:34 But Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots, dividing up His garments among themselves.

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## The saving of the thief on the cross

Luk 23:35 And the people stood by, looking on. And even the rulers were sneering at Him, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if this is the Christ of God, His Chosen One."

Mat 27:44 The robbers who had been crucified with Him were also insulting Him with the same words.

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## The saving of the thief on the cross

Luk 23:36 The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up to Him, offering Him sour wine, Luk 23:37 and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!"

Luk 23:38 Now there was also an inscription above Him, "THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS."

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## The saving of the thief on the cross

Luk 23:39 One of the criminals who were hanged there was hurling abuse at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"

Luk 23:40 But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?"

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## The saving of the thief on the cross

Luk 23:41 "And we indeed are suffering justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."

Luk 23:42 And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!"

Luk 23:43 And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise."

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## While He was on earth, Jesus had authority to forgive sins

Luk 5:18 And some men were carrying on a bed a man who was paralyzed; and they were trying to bring him in and to set him down in front of Him.

Luk 5:19 But not finding any way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down through the tiles with his stretcher, into the middle of the crowd, in front of Jesus.

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## While He was on earth, Jesus had authority to forgive sins

Luk 5:20 Seeing their faith, He said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you."

Luk 5:21 The scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, "Who is this man who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?"

Luk 5:22 But Jesus, aware of their reasonings, answered and said to them, "Why are you reasoning in your hearts?"

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## While He was on earth, Jesus had authority to forgive sins

Luk 5:23 "Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins have been forgiven you,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'?"

Luk 5:24 "But, so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,"--He said to the paralytic--"I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home."

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## While He was on earth, Jesus had authority to forgive sins

Luk 5:25 Immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had been lying on, and went home glorifying God.

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## While He was on earth, Jesus had authority to forgive sins

Luk 7:37 And there was a woman in the city who was a sinner; and when she learned that He was reclining at the table in the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume,

Luk 7:38 and standing behind Him at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume.

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## While He was on earth, Jesus had authority to forgive sins

Luk 7:44 Turning toward the woman, He said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has wet My feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair.

Luk 7:45 "You gave Me no kiss; but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss My feet.

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## While He was on earth, Jesus had authority to forgive sins

Luk 7:46 "You did not anoint My head with oil, but she anointed My feet with perfume.

Luk 7:47 "For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little."

Luk 7:48 Then He said to her, "Your sins have been forgiven."

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## The thief was saved by Jesus before the New Covenant began

Deu 5:1 Then Moses summoned all Israel and said to them: "Hear, O Israel, the statutes and the ordinances which I am speaking today in your hearing, that you may learn them and observe them carefully.

Deu 5:2 "The LORD our God made a covenant with us at Horeb.

Deu 5:3 "The LORD did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, with all those of us alive here today.

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## The thief was saved by Jesus before the New Covenant began

Heb 8:6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises.

Heb 8:7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion sought for a second.

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## The thief was saved by Jesus before the New Covenant began

Mat 26:28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.

Heb 9:15 For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

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## The thief was saved by Jesus before the New Covenant began

Heb 9:16 For where a covenant is, there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it.

Heb 9:17 For a covenant is valid only when men are dead, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives.

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Under the New Covenant, all must believe, repent, confess Jesus and be baptized

Mat 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Mat 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

Mat 28:20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

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Mar 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

Mar 16:16 "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

Luk 24:47 and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

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Under the New Covenant, all must believe, repent, confess Jesus and be baptized

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

Act 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

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Act 2:38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Act 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.

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Act 8:36 As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch \*said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?"

Act 8:37 [And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."]

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Under the New Covenant, all must believe,  
repent, confess Jesus and be baptized

Act 8:38 And he ordered the chariot to stop;  
and they both went down into the water,  
Philip as well as the eunuch, and he  
baptized him.

Act 8:39 When they came up out of the  
water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip  
away; and the eunuch no longer saw him,  
but went on his way rejoicing.

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Under the New Covenant, all must believe,  
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Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us  
who have been baptized into Christ Jesus  
have been baptized into His death?

Rom 6:4 Therefore we have been buried  
with Him through baptism into death, so that  
as Christ was raised from the dead through  
the glory of the Father, so we too might walk  
in newness of life.

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Under the New Covenant, all must believe,  
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Col 2:11 and in Him you were also  
circumcised with a circumcision made  
without hands, in the removal of the body of  
the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;

Col 2:12 having been buried with Him in  
baptism, in which you were also raised up  
with Him through faith in the working of God,  
who raised Him from the dead.

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Under the New Covenant, all must believe,  
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Col 2:13 When you were dead in your  
transgressions and the uncircumcision of  
your flesh, He made you alive together with  
Him, having forgiven us all our  
transgressions,

Col 2:14 having canceled out the certificate  
of debt consisting of decrees against us,  
which was hostile to us; and He has taken it  
out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

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## What About The Thief On The Cross?

1. While He was on earth, Jesus had  
authority to forgive sins
2. The thief was saved by Jesus before the  
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