

**Famous Last Words: 2 of 7**  
**“The Word Of Assurance”**  
**Cornerstone Church of Poway**  
**Pastor Ed Turley**  
**April 24, 2022**

**Big Idea:** By examining the final words of Jesus, we will better understand His grace and mercy.

“He **canceled the record** of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.” **Colossians 2:14 (NLT2) Remember Verse**

One of the criminals who hung there **hurled insults** at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "**Don't you fear God**," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "**Jesus, remember me** when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, **today** you will be with me in paradise."

**Luke 23:39-43 (NIV)**

### 1. How Could The Thief Know For Certain That He Will Go To Heaven?

- **He Knew That He Would Face God After Death**

But the other criminal rebuked him. "**Don't you fear God**," he said, "since you are under the same sentence?" **Luke 23:40 (NIV)**

“Just as man is destined to **die once**, and after that to **face judgment**, so Christ was sacrificed once to **take away the sins** of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring **salvation** to those who are waiting for him.”

**Hebrews 9:27-28 (NIV)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

- **He Knew That He Sinned Against God And Needed Forgiveness**

“We are **punished justly**, for we are getting what our **deeds deserve**. But this man has done nothing wrong.” **Luke 23:41 (NIV)**

As the Scriptures say, “No one is righteous— not even one. No one is truly wise; no one is seeking God. All have turned away; all have become useless. No one does good, not a single one.” **Romans 3:10-12 (NLT2)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

- **He Knew That Only Jesus Could Save Him**

Then he said, "**Jesus, remember me** when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, **today** you will be with me in paradise."

**Luke 23:42-43 (NIV)**

## **We Can Have Assurance Of Our Salvation By:**

- **Trusting In Jesus Alone To Save Us**

"For God so **loved** the world that he gave his one and only Son, that **whoever believes** in Him shall not perish but have **eternal life**. For God did not send his Son into the world to **condemn** the world, but to **save** the world through him."

**John 3:16-17 (NIV)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

- **Trusting In God's Word**

"Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are **written** that you may **believe** that **Jesus is the Christ**, the Son of God, and that **by believing** you may **have life** in his name."

**John 20:30-31 (NIV)** [1 John 5:13, 1 Corinthians 15:3-6, 2 Timothy 3:16]

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

- **The Confirmation Of The Holy Spirit**

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another **Counselor to be with you forever--** the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for **he lives with you and will be in you.**" **John 14:15-17 (NIV)**

"And you also were included **in Christ** when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having **believed**, you were **marked** in Him with a **seal**, the promised **Holy Spirit**, who is a **deposit guaranteeing** our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession--to the praise of his glory." **Ephesians 1:13-14 (NIV)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

- **Our Changed Lives**

"My sheep **listen** to my voice; I know them, and **they follow me**. I give them **eternal life**, and they shall never perish; **no one can snatch them out of my hand**. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; **no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand**. I and the Father are one." **John 10:27-30 (NIV)**

"For it is by **grace** you have been saved, through **faith--**and this not from yourselves, it is the **gift** of God-- **not by works**, so that no one can boast. For **we are God's workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus **to do good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do." **Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)**

### ➤ **Do I have confidence in my salvation?**

#### **My next right step, I will:**

[ ] Go over the study notes with a friend

[ ] Accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior

[ ] Follow Jesus in Believer's Baptism May 1, 2022

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss]

**Big Idea:** By examining the final words of Jesus, we will better understand His grace and mercy.

“He **canceled the record** of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.” **Colossians 2:14 (NLT2) Remember Verse**

**Open in Prayer.**

**Ice breaker:** Have you ever struggled with the assurance of your salvation? Why or why not? What has helped you the most?

**Read Luke 23:39-43**

What do you learn about the thief on the cross?

**How Can We Be Certain We Are Going To Heaven?**  
**We Can Have Assurance Of Our Salvation By:**

- **By Trusting In Jesus Alone To Save Us**

**Read John 3:16-17**

What do you learn about God’s attitude toward us?

Knowing that we are all sinners, what did God do for us?

- **Trusting In God’s Word**

The Bible mentions many places, people and dates that are confirmed were historically accurate by archeology. The gospel of Luke names 32 countries, 54 cities, and 9 islands without error! Renowned archaeologist Nelson Glueck is quoted as saying, "It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a biblical reference." (McDowell, *Evidence that Demands a Verdict*, Here's Life Publishers Inc., 1979, p. 65.)

The Bible was written over 1500 years by 40 authors (Kings to peasants)  
 In 3 different languages, from 3 different continents  
 Telling ONE story. God’s salvation of men through Jesus Christ.

**Read John 20:30-31**

**Read 1 John 5:13**

What do you learn about the purpose of John's writing?

**Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-6**

What do you learn about the purpose of Paul's writing?

What factual evidence does Paul give us?

**Read 2 Timothy 3:16**

What do you learn about God's Word

- **The Confirmation Of The Holy Spirit**

**Read John 14:15-17**

What do you learn about the Holy Spirit?

**Read Ephesians 1:13-14**

What do you learn about every Christian?

- **Our Changed Lives**

**Read John 10:27-30**

Why does Jesus call us sheep?

What do the sheep do?

What does the shepherd do?

What do you learn about Jesus and God the Father?

**Read Ephesians 2:8-10**

What saves us?

How does our works fit in to salvation?

**Close in Prayer:** Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.