

Did Jesus and the Thief Go from The Cross to Paradise?

Luke 23:42-43: (KJV) *⁴²And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. ⁴³And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, today shalt thou be with me in paradise.*

Special Guest: Wes Cramer



In the immensity and complexity of the book we call the Bible, there are some verses that have become somewhat famous. The Christmas text, *good tidings of great joy which will be for all people*. The football stadium text, *for God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son*. The character of God text, *God is love*. Another text that is well known and deeply meaningful is spoken by Jesus to one of the thieves dying on the cross next to him. Jesus said, *today shalt thou be with me in paradise*. This text shows us the power of God's love as expressed through the compassion of Jesus and his sacrifice and it is truly inspirational in the

hope that it portrays. Now, here is a simple and very legitimate question; what was Jesus saying to the thief? What was he promising and why was he promising it? As we find out by examining so many verses of Scripture, what seems to be said is not always what is really meant. Did Jesus really say what most Christians think he said there on the cross?

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