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Reading - 1 John 5 v 11-12

Luke 23 v 1-4, 13-16, 18, 20-25, 33, 39-43

God has given eternal life; it is presented to us in His Son the Lord Jesus Christ.

Do you think that you have eternal life? If you think you do, is it in the Lord Jesus Christ?

All that God has to offer us in the Gospel is bound up in His Son.

There were 3 groups of people at the trial of Jesus.

1 - The MOB

These were the Jewish people who had seen Him perform miracles, listened to His word and acknowledged that "never man spake like this man" (John 7:46).

These same people took Him to Pilate and wanted Him crucified. The Old Testament spoke clearly of the coming of the Messiah, they had prophets and should have known better but "He came unto His own and His own received Him not" (John 1:11). People today find gods in other places and say anyone accept this man. Whether we have Him as Saviour determines whether we have eternal life or not.

2 - Pilate

He listened to all concerning Him and found no fault in Him. He acknowledged He had done nothing wrong. It is sad that this man who examined the Lord Jesus ended up washing his hands of the situation. Some today acknowledge the Lord's existence but when it comes to accepting Him as Saviour they are not prepared to do it and wash their hands of it. Pilate tried to sit on the fence.

3 - Malefactors

There were two of them. One of them observed the Lord on the cross and had a change of heart. He is a good illustration of Salvation. He was at the end of his life with no opportunity to work his way to heaven or seek religious men. He had lived without God and Psalm 14:1 says that "The fool hath said in his heart there is no God".

God is a God to be feared. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Heb

The malefactor had recognised that he was in that position as a consequence of his actions. He acknowledged he was getting what he deserved and was a sinner. He had the right opinion of the Son:- "He has done nothing amiss".

We are sinners who have fallen short of God's standards and deserve judgment but the Lord Jesus Christ is without sin.

To be in heaven you have to understand you are a sinner but also that Jesus was a perfect man who died at the cross of Calvary as an acceptable sacrifice to God. We only need to accept the work of Calvary and we can be forgiven because Jesus died. He will never disappoint, those seeking Salvation are guaranteed a place in heaven (John 6:37) like the thief: "Today shall thou be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43); "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31). God is not asking us to go to Church or give to Charity or do good works to get saved. He just requires us to believe on His son. We all fall into one category there is no middle ground. You either have eternal life or not.

Can you look back to a time when you received the Son?

Can you say, "I have the Son I have everything"?