

Series: Amazing Grace

## “The First Scandal of Amazing Grace”

(Sunday Morning January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022)

### Passage: Luke 23:39-43

*Acts 15:28 “For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials”*

*Rom 11:6 “But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace”*

This means that the worst criminal on the face of this earth can come to God with a repentant heart, that he can confess the he has sinned and fallen short of the glory of God; and then, he can place his faith and trust in Jesus Christ, and he will be g\_\_\_\_\_ s\_\_\_\_\_.

### I. The Timeless Responses of P\_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus

*Isa 53:12 “...(He) was numbered with the transgressors;*

1) There are Some Who Will R\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus

*Matt 12:32 “...it shall not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come” (Emphasis Added)*

*Dan 12:2 “Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt”*

*1 John 5:12 “He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life”*

a. First, Many People Live in D\_\_\_\_\_ of Death

*James 4:14 “...You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.*

b. Second, Many People do Not F\_\_\_\_\_ God

*Ps 10:13 “Why do the wicked renounce God? He has said in his heart, ‘You will not require an account’”*

*Matt 10:28 “Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell”*

2) There are Some Who Will R\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus

a. His R\_\_\_\_\_

*Rom 3:23 “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”*

b. His R\_\_\_\_\_

*1 Cor 2:14 “But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised”*

*Matt 27:4, 19; Luke 23:5; Matt 1:21 (References)*

*Isa 2:4 “And He will judge between the nations, and will render decisions for many peoples”*

*Dan 12:13 “...you will enter into rest and rise again for your allotted portion at the end of the age”*

Question = So, What is It That Produced This Man’s Amazing Faith?

Answer = Three Things: the Holy Spirit, a Good Testimony and the W\_\_\_\_\_ of G\_\_\_\_\_.

*Rom 10:17 “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ”*

c. His R\_\_\_\_\_

*Rom 10:9-10 "9 ...if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation"*

## II. The Timeless Response of J\_\_\_\_\_ to People

1) Jesus Gave Him More P\_\_\_\_\_ Than He Asked For

*2 Cor 5:8 "...to be absent from the body is to be at home with the Lord" (Paraphrase)*

2) Jesus Gave Him More P\_\_\_\_\_ Than He Asked For

The word "*paradise*" was originally a Persian loan word; it referred to the botanical g\_\_\_\_\_ of a King.

*2 Cor 12:4 (Reference)*

*Rev 2:7 (Reference)*

3) Jesus Gave Him More P\_\_\_\_\_ Than He Asked for

*1 Cor 1:9 "God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord"*

*Ps 73:25 "Whom have I in heaven but You? And besides You, I desire nothing on earth"*

I see in this event a way for the Heavenly Father to bring e\_\_\_\_\_ to His only begotten Son even as He was dying on the cross at Calvary.

Compared to a God who's standard is holiness, there is not a one of us here this morning who is any l\_\_\_\_\_ v\_\_\_\_\_ than this thief.