

Luke 23:32-46 New Living Translation

32 Two others, both criminals, were led out to be executed with him. **33** When they came to a place called The Skull,^[a] they nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also crucified—one on his right and one on his left.

34 Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.”^[b] And the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing dice.

35 The crowd watched and the leaders scoffed. “He saved others,” they said, “let him save himself if he is really God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.” **36** The soldiers mocked him, too, by offering him a drink of sour wine. **37** They called out to him, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” **38** A sign was fastened above him with these words: “This is the King of the Jews.”

39 One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, “So you’re the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you’re at it!”

40 But the other criminal protested, “Don’t you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die? **41** We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn’t done anything wrong.” **42** Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.”

43 And Jesus replied, “I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

The Death of Jesus

44 By this time it was about noon, and darkness fell across the whole land until three o’clock. **45** The light from the sun was gone. And suddenly, the curtain in the sanctuary of the Temple was torn down the middle. **46** Then Jesus shouted, “Father, I entrust my spirit into your hands!” And with those words he breathed his last.

Footnotes

- a. [23:33](#) Sometimes rendered *Calvary*, which comes from the Latin word for “skull.”
- b. [23:34a](#) This sentence is not included in many ancient manuscripts.

Questions:

1. The leaders said, “Let him save himself if he is really God’s Messiah.”
What would be the result for you if Jesus was not crucified?
2. Compare and contrast what each criminal said to Jesus.
3. What did the last criminal ask Jesus to do?
How did Jesus reply to him? What does it mean?
4. How can you know that you will be with Jesus in paradise(heaven)?
5. What do you think it means that the curtains in the temple was torn down the middle?