



QA: Are We Saved Like the Thief On the Cross? by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: Are we saved like the thief on the cross? - 3/1/2020

ANSWER:

But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. (**Galatians 6:14-15**)

The Holy Spirit-inspired Apostle Paul wrote this summary of why the crucifixion of Jesus Christ is a most important, pivotal moment in human history.

1. **No person has any reason to "boast" (brag), for nothing we do has earned our salvation.**
 - a. "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (**Acts 4:12**).
 - b. "Therefore let no one boast in men" (**1 Corinthians 3:21**).
2. **The love of God through the cross has greater appeal to do good than the Devil's damnation has appeal to do evil in the world.** It is this repentant turn to the cross "by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."
 - a. Jesus lovingly went to His cross to die for the world:

"Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father" (**John 10:17-18**)

- b. Each sinner must lovingly identify with Jesus' cross and die to the world:

Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. (**Romans 6:3-6**)

c. John instructed:

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. (**1 John 4:10-11**)

d. Because of this change, we are to:

Put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him. (**Colossians 3:8-10**)

3. In Christ, "neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation."

a. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (**2 Corinthians 5:17**).

b. None of Moses' Law, which required fleshly circumcision, applies to Christians today; only Christ's Law does, which is written in the New Testament.

4. After His resurrection,

[Jesus] said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (**Mark 16:15-16**)

Jesus offered to the world the benefit of His cross.

—- John T. Polk II, February 23, 2020