



## **Did the Thief on the Cross Nullify Baptism?**

How do we as Christians respond to these arguments?



# A Close Examination of the Argument

## Key Passages:

- Matthew 27:38 – 44; Mark 15:27 – 32; John 19:18
- Luke 23:32 – 43

## The Argument

1. For those who deny the necessity of baptism as a part of salvation, many will point to events that led the one of the two thieves ending up in paradise.
2. Their contention is that this sinner has his sins forgiven without being required to being baptized.
3. They say that this example exempts all others from having to be baptized.
4. Although they will say baptism is a good work, it is only an outward sign of an inward change.

## Where agreement can be found

1. The thief was a sinner.
2. The thief showed a great amount of faith.
3. The thief was saved that day from horrible destination.



# A deeper examination of the text: Errors the argument presents

1. A failure to see the power of Jesus to save with a word.

★Matthew 9:2 – 6; Mark 2:5 – 12; Luke 5:20 – 24

★Luke 7:48 – 50



# A deeper examination of the text: Errors the argument presents

1. A failure to see the power of Jesus to save with a word.
2. A failure to understand the conception of testament.

★ Hebrews 9:16 – 17

★ Colossians 2:11 – 14



# A deeper examination of the text: Errors the argument presents

1. A failure to see the power of Jesus to save with a word.
2. A failure to understand the conception of testament.
3. A failure to see contradictions between their argument and scripture.

★ Forgiveness of sins is achieved in obedient baptism.

- Acts 2:37 – 38

- Acts 22:16

- I Peter 3:20 – 21

★ Baptism puts us into Christ.

- Galatians 3:26 – 27

- Romans 6:1 – 4



Have your sins been forgiven?

*Do you have the hope of Paradise?*