



THE  
SALVATION  
OF THE  
RIGHT THIEF

# WAS HE THE RIGHT THIEF ?

- The correct answer is ????
- There is no explicit statement from any of the gospels, yet we follow tradition.
- According to the coptic tradition, he was known as “Demas” the thief who was crucified on the right hand of the Lord.
- He is still worthy of the title even if he wasn't on the right? WHY?
- “He will set the sheep on His right and the goats on the left” (Mt 25:33).

# THE PROTESTANT CHURCH'S BELIEF (SALVATION IN A MOMENT)

- Protestants ignore the fact that good works are essential to our salvation. They say that the sacrifice of Christ ALONE (without our need to follow him in any way or love him) has saved us.
- They commonly use the right hand thief as a reason that it takes only Faith to save us. No works, or baptism.
- The right hand thief was actually saved by all 3!
- He was saved by Baptism, Works and faith.

# HOW WAS HE BAPTIZED?

## WHAT IS BAPTISM?

- Baptism is the act of dying with God: “Do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?” (Romans 6:3)
- The water of the baptism is meant to represent dying and resurrecting with Him.
- We are united with Him through His death.



## HOW WAS HE BAPTIZED?

- Since he literally died with Him, he was baptized through **blood** with Him. Therefore he was united with Christ through his death.
- “We have been united together in the likeness of His death” (Romans 6:5)

# HIS HOPE AND ENDURANCE



## VERSE

:

## WORK

### HOPE

But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?" (Luke 23:40)

"Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." (Luke 23:42)

He recognized God in front of him and put his hope in Him

### ENDURANCE

But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations (Matthew 24:13-14)

He had spent his last moments holding onto faith before and after Jesus Christ's death.

# HIS REPENTANCE AND GOOD WORK

- **40** But the other, answering, rebuked Him, saying, “Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? **41** And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.” **42** Then he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.” (Luke 23:40-42)
- By admitting that God was not only God but above him and repented in his heart by confessing God.

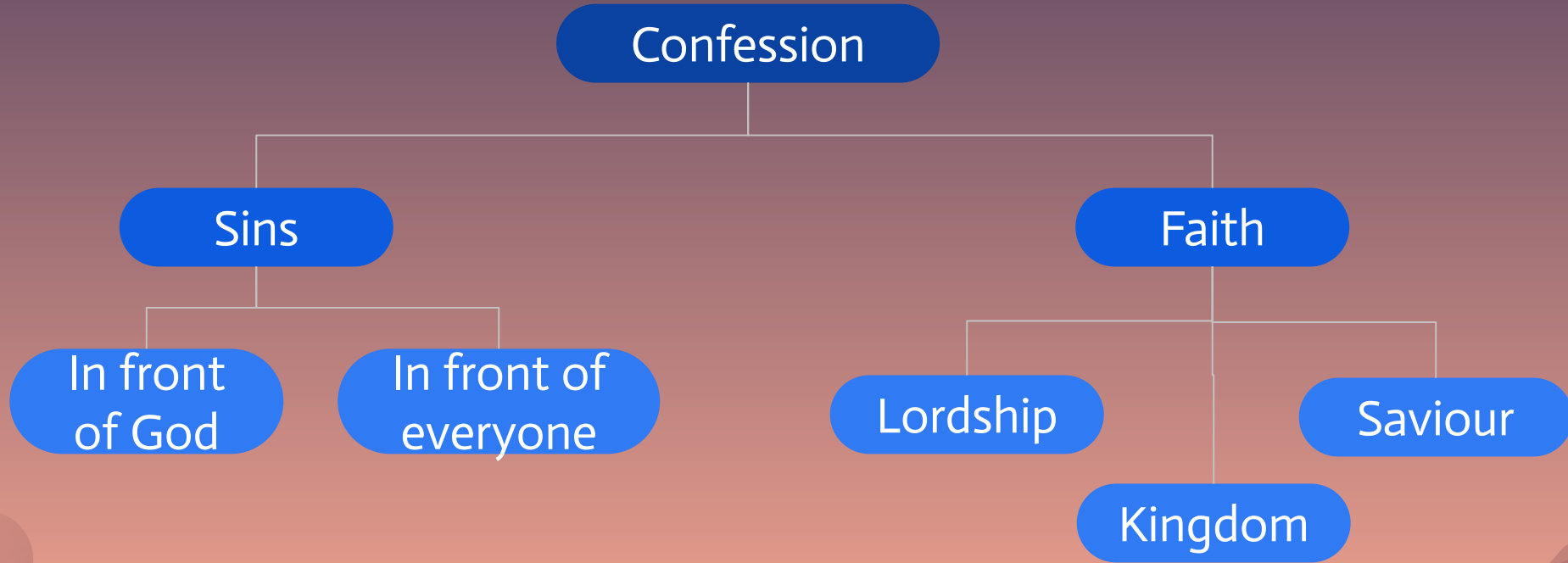


# CONFESSION

“O blessed thief, what did you see and what did you observe; that you confessed the crucified Christ in the flesh, the King of heaven and the Lord of all? You did not see Christ, God, glorified on Mt. Tabor in the glory of His Father; but you did see Him in the Cranion; the disciple denied and the thief cried out saying: Remember me O Lord when You come into Your Kingdom.” (The commemoration of the thief – Good Friday – 6th Hour)

- Step 1: Having Faith
- Was it easy?
- The Holy Spirit was working on the thief's heart, leading him to repentance.

# WHAT WERE HIS WORKS THEN ?





# WHAT WERE HIS WORKS THEN ?

- Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? (Romans 8:35-39)
- “This Man has done nothing wrong” (Lk 23:41).
- It seemed ridiculous for the right thief to be following our Lord Christ Jesus in this moment of time.  
Everyone was denying His divinity
- He pointed out the Jews, Romans and even Pilate’s sins

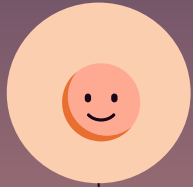
# QUENCHING OF JESUS' THIRST

- What does God long/thirst to ?
- The strong governor for those, who take refuge in Him, who longs for the salvation, and deliverance of everyone (Morning Praises)
- The Samaritan woman didn't give Him something to drink nor did the thief
- However, they both gave Him something to drink spiritually

# WHEN EXACTLY WAS HE SAVED ?

- According to our Orthodox belief, salvation is a process that both humans and God take part in
- "God who created you without you will not save you without you" - **St. Augustine**
- Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown. - (Rev 2:10)
- God's mercy is full of justice, and His justice is full of mercy.

# HOW DO WE APPLY THIS IN OUR LIFE?



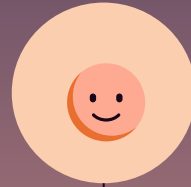
ACT ON YOUR  
FAITH



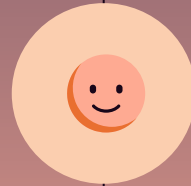
REPENT AND  
CONFESS  
CONSTANTLY



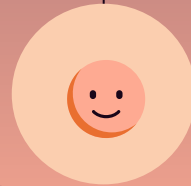
LET GOD TAKE UP  
ALL YOUR HEART



NEVER FALL IN  
DESPAIR



TAKE ADVANTAGE  
OF EVERY MINUTE



KEEP JUDGEMENT  
IN FRONT OF YOU

# HOW DO WE APPLY THIS IN SERVICE

We can apply this to our service by

- Teaching that repentance can come at any time
- Teaching that faith and works together save us
- And more.....

# CONCLUSION

## THE RIGHT HAND THIEF WAS SAVED BY-

### BAPTISM

- “We have been united together in the likeness of His death” (Romans 6:5)
- He died with Christ



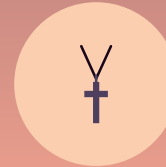
### HIS WORKS

- Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. (James 2:17)
- He confessed, chose, and in his end followed Him.



### HIS FAITH

- Then he said [\[a\]](#)to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.”(luke 23:42)
- He believed in Him.



In the end, he chose, bled, died, confessed and more, for and with our Lord Jesus Christ.