What about the Thief?

Text—Lk. 23: 32-43

1. Introduction—Discussion of Baptism
2. Thief on cross used as excuse not to be baptized
3. He wasn’t baptized but still saved
4. Proof of “Faith Only” Salvation
5. Three things noted in this passage
6. Recognition—called Jesus Lord and referred to the kingdom (vs. 42)
7. Acknowledged the inscription?
8. Knew something of Jesus?
9. Preached and Performed Miracles, not unknown in the area.
10. Penitent Spirit—admitted guilt, accepted punishment (vs. 40-41)
11. Knew of crimes committed
12. Accepted crucifixion as punishment
13. Appealed to Jesus
14. Salvation—Jesus promised him salvation—vs. 43
15. Thief was saved as Jesus stated
16. Together in Paradise.
17. Some Facts to Consider
18. Fulfillment of Prophecy—Isa. 53: 12
19. READ whole verse
20. “Numbered among transgressors”
21. Prophesized about the thieves.
22. Died for his sins as he did for others.
23. Was the thief baptized? (Matt. 3: 5-6)
24. Many went out to John the Baptist
25. Baptized for forgiveness of sins
    1. Arguing for Silence of Scriptures, Thief not mentioned.
    2. Could have been baptized.
    3. Only baptized authorized by God at time was John’s.
26. What about Adam? Moses? John the Baptist?
27. No mention of baptism, but still saved.
28. Heb. 11—Heroes of Faith, none baptized. Doesn’t limit to the thief.
29. Denial of Plain Teaching
30. Authority of scriptures alone sufficient.
31. Men’s thinking allows other ideas for salvation
    1. Sinner’s Prayer
    2. Infant Baptism
    3. Sprinkling and Pouring
    4. Matt. 15: 7-9
32. Bible examples
    1. Jesus said, Mk. 16:16
    2. Peter said, Acts 2: 38
    3. Ananias said, Acts 22; 16
    4. Paul said, Gal. 3: 27
    5. Peter again, 1 Pet. 3: 21
33. Is the thief the exception?
    1. Jesus said, Lk. 23: 43
    2. Free Pass, without baptism?
    3. If thief is exception, then so can I.
       1. Die on the way to church building.
       2. Lying on Death Bed, can’t immerse
       3. God told you to be baptized, Mk. 16: 16
34. Lived and Died under Old Law
35. Heb. 7: 11-13
    1. Priesthood changed
       1. Jesus—Tribe of Judah, tribe of Kings
       2. Can’t be Priest on Earth—Levites
    2. Law changed
       1. Jesus as Priest and King
       2. Order of Melchizedek, Priest and King of Salem (Gen. 14:18)
       3. Commands baptism after resurrection
36. Col. 2: 13-14
    1. Old Law ended
       1. Nailed to cross when Jesus died
       2. Not destroyed, concluded
       3. New Law created
       4. Thief lived under a different law.
37. Christ Had Authority to Forgive
38. How do we know he made an exception? He told him!
39. How do you know he’ll make an exception for you?
40. Forgave sins, Palsied Man—Matt. 9: 1-8
    1. Had authority to forgive and heal.
    2. Others had power to heal, but not forgive.
41. Acts 2: 38, authority by Jesus
42. Acts 10: 34-35
    1. No respecter of persons
    2. Law established, baptism is necessary.
43. Thief was promised…Paradise!
44. Lk. 23: 43
    1. Hades—Lk. 16: 22-25
    2. Supposed Parable
       1. Lazarus named
       2. Not so in parables
45. Conclusion

Acts 8: 35-38

1. Eunuch’s question: What hinders me? Not, Do I have to be baptized?
2. Our question should be the same.
3. Jesus commanded after resurrection—Matt. 28: 18-20
   1. If Jesus has ALL authority, need to listen
   2. Don’t draw own conclusions.