



Lorem

THE THIRD THIEF

Matthew 27:27-31, 33-38 ESV

²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. ²⁸ And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹ and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰ And they



spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹ And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

³³ And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴ they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he



would not drink it. ³⁵ And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. ³⁶ Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. ³⁷ And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.” ³⁸ Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left..



I. The Third Thief's long criminal record.

Mark 1:40-42 NLT

⁴⁰ A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed.

“If you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean,” he said.

⁴¹ Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. “I am willing.” he said. “Be healed!” ⁴² Instantly the leprosy disappeared, and the man was healed.



The third thief robbed the cursed and untouchable leper of his disease and disconnection.



Mark 10:46-52 NLT

⁴⁶ Then they reached Jericho, and as Jesus and his disciples left town, a large crowd followed him. A blind beggar named Bartimaeus (son of Timaeus) was sitting beside the road. ⁴⁷ When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus of Nazareth was nearby, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”



48 “Be quiet!” many of the people yelled at him.

But he only shouted louder, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”



.⁴⁹ When Jesus heard him, he stopped and said, “Tell him to come here.”

So they called the blind man.

“Cheer up,” they said. “Come on, he’s calling you!”⁵⁰ Bartimaeus threw aside his coat, jumped up, and came to Jesus.

⁵¹ “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked.

“My Rabbi,” the blind man said, “I want to see!”



⁵² And Jesus said to him, “Go, for your faith has healed you.” Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus down the road.



The third thief robbed the
blind, and the poor of their
disgraced places on the fringe
and gave them vision to see.



John 4:5-7, 16-18, 25-30 NLT

⁵ Eventually he came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there; and Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well about noontime. ⁷ Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Please give me a drink."



¹⁶ “Go and get your husband,” Jesus told her.

¹⁷ “I don’t have a husband,” the woman replied.

Jesus said, “You’re right! You don’t have a husband— ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and you aren’t even married to the man you’re living with now. You certainly spoke the truth!”



²⁵ The woman said, “I know the Messiah is coming—the one who is called Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”

²⁶ Then Jesus told her, “I am the Messiah!”

²⁸ The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, ²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?” ³⁰ So the people came streaming from the village to see him.



The third thief robbed the woman at the well of her shame and guilt.



II. The Third Thief's most **audacious** theft.

Luke 24:1-7 NLT

But very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ² They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. ³ So they went in, but they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes.



⁵ The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground. Then the men asked, “Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? ⁶ He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead! Remember what he told you back in Galilee,⁷ that the Son of Man must be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and that he would rise again on the third day.”



Revelation 1:17b-18 NLT

But he laid his right hand on me and said, “Don’t be afraid! I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸ I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave..



1 Corinthians 15:54b-57 NLT

This Scripture will be fulfilled:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.

⁵⁵ O death, where is your victory?
O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶ For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. ⁵⁷ But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.



Jesus robbed Satan of his power over sin and death, robbed death itself of its victory, and stole from the grave its power and finality when He rose again..



III. What does the Third Thief want to **steal** from individuals today?

The **arrogant** of their self-sufficiency.



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The **arrogant** of their self-sufficiency.

The selfish of their self-centeredness.



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The **arrogant** of their self-sufficiency.

The selfish of their self-centeredness.

The **content** of their complacency.



III. What does the Third Thief want to **steal** from individuals today?

The **arrogant** of their self-sufficiency.

The selfish of their self-centeredness.

The **content** of their complacency.

The humorless of their seriousness.



III. What does the Third Thief want to **steal** from individuals today?

The **arrogant** of their self-sufficiency.

The selfish of the self-centeredness.

The **content** of their complacency.

The humorless of their seriousness.

The sick of their disease and doubts about the future.



The control freaks of their fears and obsessions.



The control freaks of their fears and obsessions.

The broken of their heart-aches.



The control freaks of their fears and obsessions.

The broken of their heart-aches.

The empty of their hopelessness.



Ultimately, Jesus wants to steal
your heart.

