

What Christ said about the thief

By Wendy Burnfield

He was a murderer from the beginning and he comes only to steal, kill and destroy.

What did the thief steal? What did the thief kill and destroy?

From the beginning, Adam and Eve lived in a perfect paradise; there was no death and no suffering. The entire earth was innocent and perfect. But the thief stole mankind's rightful inheritance, paradise! Death entered into the world and brought suffering, selfishness and alienation from their creator. But this isn't the final outcome. The Prince of peace brought life and abundance to all mankind, not by human choice, but by divine choice. From start to finish Christ has completed victory for all people.

"They were even more astonished and said to one another, "Who then can be saved?" <u>Jesus</u> <u>looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God. For all things are</u> <u>possible with God."</u> –Mark 10:27

Traditionalism teaches that it is our choice to be rightful heirs, but scripture and Christ have declared that Christ's death on the cross accomplished what men cannot. What human is able to accomplish winning back what the thief stole? The thief stole perfected paradise, he stole life, and stole peace and harmony. Christ won it all back!

And He has made known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ <u>as a plan for the fullness oftime, to bring all</u> <u>things in heaven and on earthtogether in Christ</u>."-Ephesians1:9-10

Thought: Celebrate that God's love prevails, and He will never leave or forsake us.

Prayer: Thank you Father for accomplishing what men cannot. Amen

Verses: John: 10:20, John 8:44, Isaiah 25:8.

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