# THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAY, PART 2 THE WORD OF ASSURANCE

# Luke 23:35-43

Humble yourself to receive the gift of Jesus, and pattern your life after the death of Jesus.

# SOVEREIGNTY—The scene at Calvary demonstrates the initiative of God in salvation.

God uses a prophet's prediction to identify the mission of his Son. God uses a prefect's proclamation to identify the majesty of his Son.

## **DEPRAVITY**—The scene at Calvary illustrates the central problem of the human race.

The two thieves are both culpable for their crimes. The two thieves are both condemned by the law. The two thieves are both contemptuous of Jesus' plight. The two thieves are both conscious of Jesus' attitude.

## CHARITY—The scene at Calvary magnifies the grace of God in Christ.

Jesus is suffering *with* them, but he is not suffering *like* them. Jesus is suffering *with* them, but he is also suffering *for* them.

#### HUMILITY—The scene at Calvary has a transforming effect on the humble heart.

The humble heart acknowledges its own mortality and guilt. The humble heart acknowledges Jesus' goodness and immortality. The humble heart acknowledges publicly its need for the Savior.

#### ETERNITY—The scene at Calvary is jolted by a solemn reminder of the afterlife.

On the other side of death, there is an immediate consciousness. On the other side of death, there is an infinite continuation. On the other side of death, there is an indestructible Christ.

#### **RESPONSIBILITY**—The scene at Calvary shows believers how to live as Jesus died.

Jesus dies in the company of unbelievers, attracting them to God. Jesus dies refusing to retaliate for the insults and injuries inflicted on him. Jesus dies submitting to God's agenda rather than to the world's agenda. Jesus dies speaking words of hope and encouragement to the hurting. Jesus dies helping someone in a similar predicament as himself. Jesus dies serving someone who is totally unable to return the favor. Jesus dies joining God where he is at work, sharing the good news.