

Guess how long it takes for one to form an impression of another – his or her character and personality?

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One-tenth of a second

How do you know if you have moved passed the infatuation stage in your love relationship?

1. Have you been through and solved a few **sharp conflicts**?
2. Have you been through a cycle of **repenting and forgiving**?
3. Have each of you shown the other that you can **make changes** out of love for the other?

Giving you an **impression of Jesus** to  
interest you to investigate him further.

# This Man

Luke 23:39-43

**Luke 23:39–43** One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

<sup>40</sup>But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? <sup>41</sup>We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”

<sup>42</sup>Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

<sup>43</sup>Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Some backgrounds to the passage:

1. Barabbas [Matthew 27:16](#), [Mark 15:7](#)
2. Innocence [Luke 23:4](#), [13-15](#)
3. Thieves, robbers or criminals? [Matthew 27:38](#); [Mark 15:27](#)

He was **innocent** but was crucified with two criminals (evil-doers).

**Isaiah 53:12** Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.



Derisions:

**Luke 23:35** The people stood watching, and the rulers even **sneered** at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.”

**Luke 23:36–37** The soldiers also came up and **mocked** him. They offered him wine vinegar <sup>37</sup>and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”

**Luke 23:39** One of the criminals who hung there **hurled insults** at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

# A tailor-made Jesus to suit oneself

Luke 23:39 “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

“Aren’t you the all-loving and all-powerful God?  
Why then are there so many sufferings and  
problems in the world today?”

# No fear for God

Luke 23:40 “Don’t you fear God?”

*The remarkable thing about God is that when you fear God, you fear nothing else, whereas if you do not fear God, you fear everything else.*

Oswald Chambers

# Jesus has done nothing wrong!

**Luke 23:41** We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”

**Luke 23:4** Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, “I find no basis for a charge against this man.”

**Luke 23:13–15** Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and the people, 14 and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against him. 15 Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us; as you can see, he has done nothing to deserve death.

# Jesus was focused on his mission

**Luke 23:41** We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”



**Matthew 1:21** She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

**Luke 19:10** For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

**John 3:17–18** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.

**1 Timothy 1:15** Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.

**1 John 2:2** He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Jesus, a controversial figure

What's your response?