

## **Before the Foundation**

(c) 2018, Don Poss

Do you realize God chose you before the foundations of the earth were laid [Ephesians 1:4]? It is true. He waited through the eons of time...countless eternities...creation of the heavens and Earth...hovered over its formless surface of the deep waters and caused the continents we know today to rise from the void where He created life. He waited still as millenniums passed until finally...you were born. He watched you grow into the man He knew you would become...and listened as you heard that His Son, Jesus, gave His own life for your sins, for our sins, and our salvation. God then told us why he did this:

John 3:16-17

"For God so loved the world He gave His only Son, that whosoever believe in Him shall not perish...but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the word through Him might be saved."

Nevertheless, as humans we want to earn our way...do something to be worthy...and ask how salvation could be so simply attained. Think about Jesus' crucifixion and as he was nailed to the cross and a thief was on a cross next to him. The thief said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom." This is important because the thief never had time to do any good deeds nor in any way do anything he might believe would in some way earn worthiness to go to heaven. In fact, what had just happened was he met Jesus' requirement for salvation:

Revelation 3:20

"Behold I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hears my voice, and open the door, I will come into him, and sup with him, and he with me." The thief acknowledged recognition of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and called upon Jesus to remember him. The point is this: Jesus came Into the thief's heart when he was asked to enter.

You asked Jesus to come into your heart and forgive your sins. Jesus did exactly that and has never...will never...leave you. You did not earn salvation, nor were you or anyone ever worthy. "Salvation is by grace through faith alone, not as a result of good works, so that God alone gets the glory." [Ephesians 2:8-9]

You will have eternal life and a relationship in heaven with the Lord. Why not begin that relationship with Him now?