

The Last Words of Jesus

“Into Your Hands I Commend My Spirit”

(Luke 23:46)

- Introduction:
1. We have been examining the last words of Jesus.
 2. Last words are usually significant, so we have been examining the last words spoken by our Lord before his death.
 3. In doing so, I think we have discovered this his last words were intentional and had great meaning.
 3. We now come to the last statement made by Jesus, “into your hands I commend my spirit.”

I. The Nature of Jesus’ Last Words

- A. Note that the seven utterances of Jesus were not cries of despair, mindless whimpers, or cries of rage.
- B. Rather each one gives us insight into his character, purpose, and nature.
- C. Love, forgiveness, sacrifice, hope, accomplishment...all these sentiments were expressed in the last words of Jesus.

II. Jesus Laid His Life Down

- A. Jesus gave up his life because he willed it, when he willed it, and as he willed it.
- B. Many threats were made against him (Luke 4:30; John 7:25, 44-46; John 10:31, 39; John 11:16).
- C. (John 10:17-18).
- D. These words were not simply his sense of life slipping away, but rather his own determination that this was the proper moment to lay down his life in obedience to the Father’s plan.
- E. Compare Jesus’s statement with Stephen’s (Acts 7:59).

III. More Than Flesh

- A. The Bible teaches that the body without the spirit is dead (James 2:26), but nowhere does it teach that the spirit without the body is dead.
- B. Eternal life, even after death, should be a sobering thought!
- C. (Matthew 10:28).

IV. Scripture On His Lips

- A. Is it surprising to note that the last words of Jesus were Scripture (Psalm 31:5)?
- B. Scripture was his defense all through his life - “It is written,” “Have you not read?” and “Search the Scriptures...”

- Conclusion:
1. Jesus taught us how to live and he taught us how to die (1 Peter 2:21).
 2. Psalm 116:15 - Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

3. Proverbs 11:7 - When a wicked man dies, his expectation shall perish: and the hope of unjust men perish.