



April 10, 2022

Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."

Luke 23:46

I. The Proof of Purification (Luke 23:44,45)

- A. The darkness represents the sin of the world coming upon Jesus
- B. The next miracle happened – The veil is torn in two!
 - 1. The Temple is designed with a “holy of holies”
 - 2. In front of that “room” is a large veil or curtain – 60 ft. high X 4 in. thick
 - 3. The curtain separated God’s presence from all humanity except the sanctified priest
- C. So what does it mean that the curtain is torn “From top to bottom” (Matt. 27:51)
 - 1. God tore it from heaven not man from earth!
 - 2. God decided that the atonement of Christ’s blood was sufficient (Heb. 10:19 - 23)
 - 3. God can meet man anywhere anytime – Man is free to come to God’s throne! (Heb. 4:16)
 - 4. The temple represented the “old covenant” but now Jesus’ blood becomes the “new covenant”

II. The Prayer of Peace and Power (Luke 23:46)

- A. The prayer of a child = the prayer of peace (Psalm 31:5)
- B. Jesus uses the word “Father” once again – a prayer of sonship
- C. Jesus states two powerful truths in this powerful prayer:
 - 1. He is ready to die in peace with God His Father
 - a. Simple truth – Everyman has to face death
 - b. Powerful truth – There is no fear with peace with God as your Father
 - c. Another powerful truth – The fear of death will steal away your life!
 - 2. He trust God with His spirit
 - a. The word commit = *paratithemi* = to make deposit based on one’s trust
 - b. The ultimate submission to God is to release our lives and spirits to Him (I Pet. 4:19; Acts 7:59)
- D. This is a power prayer against anxiety, fear, or pain –
“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit”

III. The Problem of Free Will (Luke 23:47 – 49)

- A. We all have to decide how we will respond to Jesus and His invitation on the cross!
- B. Three responses:
 - 1. The Centurion – Praised God – “Surely this was a righteous man” - inspired
 - 2. The People – beat their breast and went away - disgust
 - 3. The Disciples – Stood back and watched and wondered – expectant
- C. How do you respond to Jesus’ invitation on the cross?