

Trust

“Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit”

Foundation

Bible passage : Luke 23.46

The words of Jesus recorded in Luke 23 verse 46 are generally reckoned to be the last of His seven sayings from the cross; “Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit”.

Luke and Matthew both record in detail how just before Jesus began His public ministry He spent forty days in the wilderness and was tempted by the devil. The devil began the second and third temptations with the challenge “If you are the son of God...”. First, Jesus is challenged to turn stones into bread and then to throw Himself down from the pinnacle of the temple.

When Jesus was crucified Luke records in his gospel words not of challenge but of mockery from some of those nearby, and yet they began with the same words as the devil.

Those who passed by the scene of the crucifixion derided Him and wagging their heads said “If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” (Mtt 27.39-40). The religious leaders also mocked Jesus using some of the things Jesus had said concluding “**He trusts in God**; let God deliver Him now, if He desires Him, for He said ‘**I am the Son of God.**’” (Mtt 27.41-43)

At the start of His ministry Jesus had demonstrated His trust in His Father by not

“He trusts in God... For He said I am the Son of God”

giving in to temptation. So too, as He died, despite the mockery, He continued to Trust in God, knowing that He is indeed the Son of God and so could say “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” (Luke 23:46)

Father,
forgive
them, for
they know

not what they do. Truly, I say to
you, today you will be with me
in paradise. Woman, behold,
your son! - Behold, your mother!

My God, my
God, why
have you
forsaken me?

I thirst.

It is finished.

Father, into
your hands
I commit
my spirit!

In everyday life it can be easy to trust other people when things are going well, but there are situations in which it can be very hard to trust others, because of things they have done, or just how difficult things are for us.

So too, trusting in God can seem easy when we enjoy good times, but to trust God under temptation, when facing sickness, persecution and such like is much harder. Despite the mocking words Jesus did trust in God and demonstrated it in his words as He died.

The resurrection and ascension into glory show that Jesus was right to trust in the God and that those who mocked Him were mistaken. If Jesus had not risen from the dead, then His trust would have been shown to be a mistake.



Jesus shows us what it means to trust God not just in good but in bad times, even in facing death.