

## *Christ's Seventh Saying From The Cross*

*“And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, He said, Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit: and having said thus, He gave up His spirit” (Luke 23:46).*

Akaisha, our youngest daughter, has always been able to hold on to her money. While the family jokes about her still having the first dime she ever made, we all have to admit that she is very disciplined with her finances. Whether it is a gift or some form of income she receives, she saves it. Instead of buying the items her friends are buying or spending a little on herself, she deposits her money in her bank account and simply leaves it there.

The word “commend” in Christ’s seventh saying from the cross might be rendered “deposit.” It also means to “entrust, to commit to one’s charge.” The Lord Jesus deposited His spirit into His Father’s keeping. He entrusted or committed Himself to the guardianship of the Father. As is stated in another text, “Christ . . . through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God” (Heb. 9:14).

The Apostle Paul used the same word in his second letter to young Timothy. He wrote, “For I know Whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day” (2 Tim. 1:12). Because Jesus deposited His spirit with the Father, we can deposit our spirits in His saving and keeping power. Since He committed His all to the Father, we can commit our all to Him, also.

*This statement is made in the light of the Father’s countenance!* Christ’s first prayer from the cross was addressed to the “Father.” His second prayer from the cross, however, made while bearing our sins, was simply, “My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?” Now having paid the price of our redemption, the beams of heavens’ love shined upon the Son again and He cried from the cross, “Father.”

*This statement is made in the light of the Father’s control!* Throughout His earthly ministry, Christ magnified the sovereignty and authority of His Father (see John 6:38, 44; 10:29). Lovingly trusting Him to safely guard His spirit, the Lord Jesus deposited it into His Father’s “hands.” The God Who held Him in His hands of mercy in life could be trusted to hold Him in His hands of might in death. This is also true for you and me!

*This statement is made in the light of the Father’s continuation!* Since Jesus committed His spirit to the Father in the hour of death, then the Father must be eternal. The spirit would live on with the Father on the other side of death. As Christ committed Himself into the hands of the eternal God with certainty, so all believers can be assured about the ages to come. Through Christ, we will not only live with the Father, but will live as long as the Father lives.