

The Words of Christ on the Cross

For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. Is. 53:12

1. **"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."** Luke 23:34

In the same intent of His Sacrifice, rather than condemning His torturers, He is praying for their forgiveness. They were blinded to what they were doing: 1 Cor. 2:8
To see some of the fruit of this prayer: Acts 2:41

2. **"I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."** Luke 23:43

Read Luke 23:39-43. Again, the theme of His Sacrifice is forgiveness. The grace produced by His sacrifice reaches every repentant sinner. This act gives us credence for "death-bed" conversions.

3. **When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother."**
From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. John 19:26-27

Most of us, even with a toothache would be thinking of self, but even during His extreme, undeserved suffering, the Lord of Lords cares about his earthly responsibilities, namely, his mother's care. As the oldest son He gave her care to his trusted disciple, John, rather than his brothers, since they were not yet believers. Devotion to God's family, as a true disciple takes priority. Rom. 12:10, (Lk.14:25-27)

4. **"Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"**
—which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
Matthew 27:46 & Mark 15:34

Aramaic with some Hebrew characteristics. Mistaken by those nearby as "Elijah." (See Mt. 27:46-49)
See Ps. 22:1. This truly is the crux of the sacrifice as the total separation from God is felt. These words are necessary so that we may know the extent of His sacrifice and pain. Jesus, though sinless, knew the separation we have from God, due to our sinfulness. He endured this terrifying separation for us.

5. **"I am thirsty."** John 19:28

Psalm 69:21 They...gave me vinegar for my thirst.

This shows His humanity, which means He can understand our human frailty. Though fully God, he was also fully man. This is Jesus' only recorded references to his human suffering.

6. **"It is finished."** John 19:30

The sacrifice was complete. It is important to remember that he is not referring to his life, but to the sacrifice, to the victory over death. By living a perfect life as fully Man, in obedience to God, and by his death on the cross, he had just made way to all repentant men to be saved eternally.
See John 10:17-18 He chose to give His life; and He has the power to resurrect.

7. **Jesus called out with a loud voice,**
"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."
When he had said this, he breathed his last. Luke 23:46

Ps. 31:5 Into your hands I commit my spirit; redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth.

It is said that this was a saying taught by Jewish mothers to their children to say at bedtime. It is a total expression of trust in God. Having sacrificed His life for man, we see Jesus place His trust in the Father.

Do you live your redeemed life for yourself or for Him? How can you give more daily to your God and your fellow Christians? In your times of distress, sacrifice, loneliness, do you clam up, focusing on your pain, and depend on your own strengths? Or do you call out to God and pour yourself out to the Trustworthy Father?