



Questions for further study - April 9th '17

'I am thirsty' 'It is finished'

John 19:28-30

'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.'

Luke 23:46

1. Read John 19:28-30. Reflect on the physical, mental & spiritual suffering that Jesus endured. What details does John draw our attention to?

What significance do you see in this statement of Jesus: "I am thirsty"?

i) It links in with a theme that's run through John's gospel. Read John 4:13-14 & John 7:37-39. What can we learn from these passages about how we can avoid becoming spiritually dehydrated?

ii) re. the significance of hyssop. Hyssop was used to sprinkle blood on the doorposts and lintels on the first Passover (Exodus 12:22). Reflect on the significance of the title of Jesus as the "Lamb of God". (see John 1:29, Acts 8:32, 1 Peter 1:19, Rev 5:12)

2. The phrase "It is finished" is a single word in the original Greek this was written in. In the business world in the 1st century, when someone had a debt and it was paid off, the creditor would write "TETELESTAI" on the certificate of debt to show that it was "PAID IN FULL". His work of redemption is complete and nothing needs to be or can be added to it. See Hebrews 9:12, Hebrews 10:12, Satan is defeated & redemption is eternally secured. Reflect on what Jesus said in John 17:4 and what this means for us.

3. In Luke 23:46 we read, "Jesus called out with a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' When he had said this, he breathed his last." When Jesus died, He "handed over" the Spirit. Jesus remained in control to the end, and it is He who handed over his Spirit. Jesus was obedient to His Father to the end, and his final word before his death on the Cross was a prayer to His Father. What can we learn from this about placing our lives in God's hands?

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

As we follow the events of this week leading up to Good Friday & Easter Sunday, may we respond once again to the "amazing grace" of God.