

# The Last Words of Jesus from Hebrew

Jesus' last words on the cross are recorded in the gospels:

**Luke** (NKJV) – *And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, “Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’” Having said this, He breathed His last.*

His statement “into your hands I commit my spirit” is a direct quote from Psalm 31:

**Psalm 31:5** (NKJV) – *Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.*

Dr. Eliyahu (Eli) Lizorkin-Eyzenberg is a Research Fellow at Galilee Center of Jewish-Christian Relations, Jezreel Valley Academic College in Northern Israel. He gives a Hebrew perspective on what Jesus would have meant when he said this:

*“How does this verse sound in Hebrew original? Is it possible that some essential nuance got lost in translation? The answer is yes. Please, allow me to explain.*

*The Hebrew word which was translated as “I commit” is “אֶפְקֹד” (pronounced afkid).*

*This word has a meaning that is much closer to “I deposit” – which necessarily signifies a future “reclaiming” of the thing deposited.*

*A vivid image might be that of checking in a coat at theater or restaurant, or even money into the bank, with the definite intention of getting it back. While the English word 'commit' can also be used to describe giving something in with the purpose of claiming it back, at some point in the future – it might just as well mean the giving of something without stating clear intentions for the future. In Hebrew, on the other hand, the unequivocal meaning of this verse is the temporary submission of one’s spirit into the hands of God, into “His custody”, with the definite intention of receiving it back. This of course makes perfect sense that Jesus would quote this psalm in particular, while hanging on a Roman cross.”<sup>1</sup>*

This further confirms that going to the cross was a pre-planned activity, not the sign of a defeated rabbi, but of a Kingdom son who was intimately privy to Father's business in minute detail.

Laurence

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1 – Eliyahu (Eli) Lizorkin-Eyzenberg (14-7-2016) “Rethinking Jesus' Last Words from Hebrew”  
([www.beitariel.co.za/articles/rethinking-jesus-last-words-hebrew](http://www.beitariel.co.za/articles/rethinking-jesus-last-words-hebrew))