

Series "God At Work" Book of Acts
"Ascension of Jesus"
Acts 1:9-11
Study-2

Acts 1:9-11

The Ascension of Jesus is God's stamp of approval that Jesus has accomplished all. He has dominion over all things, and He has now been received into heaven to His rightful place.

Ephesians 1:18-23

The Incarnation of Jesus – *God with us:*

The Crucifixion of Jesus – *God as us:*

The Ascension of Jesus – *God for us:*

The Day of Pentecost – *God in us:*

The Book of Acts theme: "God At Work"

Thought of Our Passage: The Ascension Of Jesus Is God's Approval That Jesus Accomplished All And Has Dominion Over All, And Is Seated In Heaven."

Two areas in our study: (Look at Acts 1:9-11; Mark 16 & Luke 24:50-53)

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| 1. Verse 9 | The Ascension of Jesus |
| 2. Verses 10-11 | The Meaning of the Ascension |

1. Verse 9 The Ascension of Jesus:

Acts 1:9 And after He had said these things, - Luke is referring to **Acts 1:1-8**, which is Luke's account of Jesus' 40 days following the resurrection.
Acts 1:6-8

Luke 24:50 He led them out as far as Bethany, - When did this take place? **Acts 1:3-4** said 40 days later. Some 40 days have elapsed there have been 10-11 appearances of Jesus.

Bethany - Jesus had made Bethany his headquarters during the final week of his life.

Bethany, The City Used For The Triumphal Entry: Mark 11:1-11
The Anointing of Jesus, At Simon The Leper's House, Also Took Place In Bethany: Matthew 26:6-13

Bethany Was The Home of Lazarus, Mary and Martha, Jesus' Close Friends: John 11

Bethany Is The Place Associated With The Resurrection: John 11:21-27

The Disciples Were Eyewitness of The Ascension: Acts 1:9 He was lifted up while they were looking on, Mark 16:19; Luke 24:50-51

Acts 1:9 and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

Cloud – This is referred to in the OT as the "*Shekinah Glory*." It was the *symbol of the Divine presence of God, His favor, His pleasure*. On Mount Sinai – Moses.

Matthew 26:64 Paul tells us, **Ephesians 4:8**

Luke 24:50-51

Note the deliberate mention that Jesus lifted up his hands and blessed them. He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Ephesians 1:3

Leviticus 9:22 Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them,

The forgiveness of sins brings the blessing of blessings! Acts 1:10

Luke 24:52 And they, after worshiping Him, returned to Jerusalem with great joy,

The word "**worship**" comes from the Old English word "*worth-ship*," which means *to ascribe worth or value to something or someone*.

Worship: This word means "*to bow down, to do homage*." It is first used in **Genesis 18:2**

Worshiped - Greek: Literally means "*to go towards someone and to kiss him or her*." It is a word that expresses deep intimacy.

The Pharisees, who thought that they were experts in worship, **Matthew 15:8-9**

True worship includes:

1. The "sacrifice of praise to God" ("the fruit of our lips").
2. Doing good and sharing.
3. The giving of our resources is an act of true worship.
4. The giving of our time and service is an act of true worship.

Mark 16:19 when the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, - How do we know? (**Mark 16:19; Luke 24; Acts 1**)

and sat down at the right hand of God. It is the place of honor, power, and preeminence. **Psalm 2; 110:1**

Three witnesses have seen Him there.

1. Stephen - Acts 7:54-56
2. Paul - Acts 9:3
3. John - Revelation 1:12, Rev. 4, 5

and sat down at the right hand of God – declares that the work of salvation had been accomplished.

Hebrews 1:3; Hebrews 10:10-12

2. Verses 10-11 The Meaning of the Ascension:

Acts 1:10 behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them; These were angels, which are mentioned several times in **Acts**. The Resurrection had two angels **Luke 24:4**

Acts 1:11 They also said, "**Men of Galilee**, - this is so good because it shows the divine in revealing where they were from, and who they were."

Rebuke: why do you stand looking into the sky?

The Ascension Brings Promise of Christ's Return: This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

heaven – or the term "**Sky**" is used **4 times** in **Acts 1:10-11**. There is no question as to where Jesus was going to and where Jesus dwells.

will come in just the same way - Visibly, physically, bodily, and personally. **1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 Rapture** followed by seven years - The Second Coming.

Mark 13:26; Zachariah 12:10; 14:14; Revelation 19:11-16

Christ's Return Means, "Get Going" - will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

Notice The Experience of the Disciples was one of Joy. Luke 24:52-53

Luke 24:52 And they, after worshiping Him, returned to Jerusalem with great joy,

Happiness: *"result of happenings, based on happenings."*

Joy: their joy is the result of their intimate act of worship.

Joy is a mark of someone whose life has been transformed by Jesus Christ.

Four Purposes of the Ascension and Exaltation of Jesus Christ:

- 1. Jesus Has Entered Heaven As A Forerunner. Hebrews 6:20**
- 2. Jesus Has Gone To Prepare A Place For His People. Hebrews 9:21-24; John 14:2**
- 3. Jesus Is Now Appearing Before God In Our Behalf. Hebrews 9:24—**
- 4. Jesus Has Taken His Place At The Father's Right Hand, Awaiting The Day When He Shall Have Universal Dominion. Acts 2:33**

Application: Eight Benefits From The Ascension of Jesus Christ:

- 1. The Ascension Assures Us Of A Free And Confident Access Into The Presence Of God. 1 John 2:1-2; Hebrews 7:25**
- 2. The Ascension Assures Us Of The Hope Of Immortality. Ephesians 1:13-14**
- 3. The Ascension Declares Christ Head Over All Things For The Church. Ephesians 1:22**
- 4. Because Of The Ascension, Jesus Intercedes In Prayer For Us. Romans 8:33-34; Hebrews 4:16**
- 5. The Ascension Assures A Finished Plan of Redemption. Mark 16:19**
- 6. The Ascension Means A Secure Redemption. Hebrews 6:19-20**
- 7. The Ascension Means A Continuing Redemption. Hebrews 7:25**
- 8. The Ascension Means A Sufficient Redemption. 2 Corinthians 3:5; Romans 5:20**