

**Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"**  
**"The Ascension"**  
**Luke 24:50-53**  
**Study-108**

These closing verses could be entitled **"Mission Accomplished!" Because the Ascension is God the Father's stamp of approval!**

**Ephesians 1:20-23**

**Luke 24 Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Christ:**

Resurrection, Verses 1-12; The Road to Emmaus, Verses 13-35; Now Many Convincing Proofs, Verses 36-49; His Ascension, Verses 50-53

**The Ascension is recorded in Mark 16:19, Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:9-11**

**The Thought of Our Passage:** "Jesus Is The Resurrected, Ascended, Glorified Lord, Who Is Worshipped, Praised, And Obeyed By His Church"

- 1. Ascension of Jesus**
- 2. Importance of The Ascension**

**1. Ascension Of Jesus:**

**Luke 24:50 And** We left off with three encounters of Jesus Christ on Resurrection Sunday; Morning, afternoon, and then late evening. They saw, touched, and talked with Him.

What the ascension of Jesus does is **bring a conclusion** to the Gospel of Luke, but it is also the **bridge to the sequel**, the book of Acts.

**Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-4**

**Journey - Jesus Led His Disciples to Bethany: He led them out as far as Bethany,** - When did this take place? **Acts 1:3-4** said 40 days later. (6 Weeks from the resurrection)

**Bethany** – eastern sloop of the Mount of Olives. In the Gospels, Jesus made **Bethany** his headquarters during the final week of his life. **Bethany was a place of 3 great events.**

- 1. Bethany the city used for the Triumphal Entry:** prior to his "triumphal entry" into Jerusalem, Jesus sent 2 of his disciples to Bethany in order to secure the donkey for his ride into the city.
- 2. The anointing of Jesus at Simon the Leper's house also took place in Bethany: Mark 14:3**

**3. Bethany was the home of Jesus' close friends, Lazarus, Mary, and Martha.**

**Bethany then is the place associated with resurrection. John 11:21-27**

**Mark 16:19 He was received up into heaven,** - How do we know? **(Acts 1, Luke 24)** tells us that they watched Him ascend into heaven.

**and sat down at the right hand of God.** How do we know that He sits at the right hand of God? **Psalm 2, 110:1** says so. **Three men have seen Jesus there.**

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

**right hand of God** - This is the place of honor and authority. **Hebrews 2:3-4**

**Disciples' Witness & Testimony: Mark 16:20**

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

**cloud** – This is referred to in the OT as the "*Shekinah Glory*." It was the *presence of God, His favor, His pleasure*. On Mount Sinai, Moses was in a cloud; when he came down, he had to cover his face.

**Acts 1:10-11**

**The Ascension/Exaltation of Jesus Christ: Psalm 2:7-9; 8:6; 68:18; 110:1,5; Daniel 7:13-14; Ephesians 4:8**

**Jesus' Own Ascension Had Been Predicted By Jesus: Matthew 26:64 (Transfiguration) Luke 9:30-31**

**The Benediction Of Jesus Christ: and He lifted up His hands and blessed them.**

This is the only place in the Gospels where Jesus is said to have lifted up his hands.

And you will note that the word " **blessing** " appears  **2 times**  in these verses.

**Luke 24:50 and He lifted up His hands and blessed them.**

**Luke 24:51 While He was blessing them,**

**Ephesians 1:3**

**New Role As Our High Priest: Hebrews 4:14-16**

**Aaron The High Priest's Benediction: Numbers 6:24-26**

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

## **2. Importance of The Ascension:**

**Luke 24:51-52**

**Worshipped Him:** 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**

**Worshipped** - The word that is used here by Luke for **worship** in Greek: Literally means *"to go towards someone and to kiss him or her."* It is a word that expresses deep intimacy.

**Jesus made it clear that there is both a right way and a wrong way to worship - a true and false worship.** The Pharisees, who thought that they were experts in worship, were by and large not even close: **Matthew 15:8-9**

True Worship Includes: **Hebrews 13:15-17**

1. The "sacrifice of praise to God" (or "the fruit of our lips")
2. Doing good and sharing, giving of our time, resources.
3. Obedience and submission to leaders.

**Notice that blessing and worship go together.**

**Luke 24:52**

**The Experience of Genuine Worship Resulted In Joy: returned to Jerusalem with great joy,**

**Disciples Experienced Joy Even With Jesus' Departure. Why is that?**  
*We need to link the joy of the disciples to their act of worshipping Jesus.*

**Luke 24:52 And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy,**  
**Luke 24:53 and were continually in the temple, praising God.**

**Happiness** – *"result of happenings, based on happenings"*

**Joy** – The Disciples’ joy is the result of their intimate act of worship and personal relationship.

**This was not the end of their relationship with Jesus; it was the end of one kind of relationship and the beginning of another.**

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

**Philippians 2:5-11**

**Luke 24:53 and were continually in the temple, praising God.**

Luke opened his Gospel with a scene in the temple (**Luke 1:8**), - The scene of unbelief. The Gospel closes with a scene of the temple with faith and trust (**Luke 24:53**).

**continually in the temple** What a model for the church to follow. **Acts 2:46-47**

**praising God.** Giving God the glory for all things. It is trusting Him with our lives.

**Application: Ascension and Exaltation of Jesus Christ:**

- 1. Jesus Has Entered Heaven As Our Forerunner:** *Forerunner is one who enters into a place where the rest are to follow;* **Hebrews 6:20**
- 2. Jesus Has Ascended To Prepare A Place For His People:** **John 14:2-3**
- 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 That He May Fill All Things, Awaiting The Day When He Shall Have Universal Dominion:** **Ephesians 1:20-23**