

The Ascension  
Summer series prep  
7.19.20  
Acts 1:1-11

## The Ascension

### I. The Nature of the Ascension

#### A. Where He didn't Ascend...

-Outer Space

-It's not that he went to live in another part of the universe, but that he now has a different relationship with the universe

#### B. Where He did Ascend...

-The Throne of God

-A change in relationship

-to "ascend" to the throne of England means to change your relationship to all the people of England.

the -Jesus, in the ascension, transitioned back to His rightful place on Throne of God. **-Hebrews 8:1**

### II. The Necessity of the Ascension

#### A. It was necessary for his work to continue (Acts 1:1)

*1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus **began** to do and to teach*

-meaning he's not done... His work that began, will and does continue.

#### B. It was necessary for the betterment of this followers

-He told his disciples in Jn 16:7 " it's actually BETTER for you that I go"

-Jesus' ascension means he now continues his work everywhere, for all eternity. He's no longer bound to the restrictions of space and time. **-Eph 4:10**

### III. The Significance of the Ascension (Acts 1:8)

*8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

#### A. It means we are humbled as REAL PEOPLE

1. Will you? -Vs 6... "Lord, at this time will you

-the disciples still didn't quite get it, He was teaching them about the kingdom of God (vs 3) and they were still waiting for the kingdom of Israel

2. You will -vs 8

-Jesus began his work on earth, but continues it through us (**2 Corinthians 4:7**)

THE VISION CAST BY JESUS AT HIS ASCENSION HUMBLER US

## **B. It means we are emboldened with REAL LIFE**

**8** *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you"*

1. Gospel transformation doesn't come through being *like* Jesus...

-that's called moralism.

-It comes through the regenerative work of the Holy Spirit *in* us.

2. The promise of the Holy Spirit at work in us and through us means we live and speak not only with humility but also with authority.

**-Jn 16:8-15**

THE VISION CAST BY JESUS AT HIS ASCENSION EMBOLDENS US

## **C. It means we are commissioned into the REAL WORLD**

*and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria,  
and to the ends of the earth."*

1. The message is HIS not ours.

-the centrality of the Gospel is paramount

-it means, we're not the hero's of the story, he is...

-2 ways to read the Bible

a- where we're the main characters.

...we're David, able to slay the giant

...we're Moses, able to free the captives

...we're Sampson, able to beat the enemy

b- where Jesus is the main character (**Lk 24:27; Jn 5:39**)

-He's the true prophet, priest, and king

-Jesus is the Hero of the story.... Not us.

2. The call to bear witness is costly...

a. **"witnesses"** Greek: *martus*: a witness; a martyr

**-Acts 22:20**

b. When Jesus said *"take up your cross and follow me"* He wasn't talking about a fashion statement.

c. Jesus is able to ask for something that is valuable (your life), because what he has to offer happens to be infinitely MORE valuable (His life).

3. The significance of the ascension should move us across the street and all the way *"to the ends of the earth"*

a. *"why are you standing here looking into the sky?"*

THE VISION CAST BY JESUS AT HIS ASCENSION SENDS US