

## Jesus' Ascension into Heaven

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by Wayne Goff

Luke records the ascension of Jesus into heaven in Acts 1:9-11. The apostles were witnesses to this event, and Luke records it by inspiration. What an awe-inspiring sight for these men who had been with Jesus throughout His earthly ministry! Jesus is not a dead Hero but a risen Savior!

The prophet Daniel predicted what happened once Jesus ascended back to the Father in heaven, Daniel 7:13-14.

**"I was watching in the night visions, and behold, *One* like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom *the one* which shall not be destroyed."**

The "cloud" of Acts 1:9 is obviously connected to the "clouds" of Daniel 7:13-14. Jesus **became** King of kings and Lord of Lords (1 Tim. 6:15), ruling at the right hand of the Father with "*all authority ... in heaven and on earth*" (Matt. 28:18) at this time. His kingdom began with His coronation, and the inaugural address was spoken by the apostles once they had been baptized by the Holy Spirit (Acts 2)! In fact, Peter states on the Day of Pentecost that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was proof that Jesus had been "*exalted to the right hand of God*" (Acts 2:33).

Further prophetic evidence is given when David is quoted in Psalm 68:18 (Acts 2:34-35). The heavenly Father crowned Him with authority until all enemies are subjugated! The prophecy is duplicated at Psalm 110:1. The apostle Paul states emphatically that the "*last enemy*" to be destroyed is "*death*" (1 Cor. 15:25-26) — again referencing Psalm 110:1. This will not take place until the end of earth time when Jesus Christ returns again.

The New Testament states **repeatedly** that Jesus' resurrection was accomplished in order to allow Jesus to ascend into heaven and sit at the Father's right hand, on the "*throne*" of David (Acts 2:30).

*"So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God,"* Mark 16:19.

*"For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;"* Heb. 9:24.

*"Who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him"* 1 Pet. 3:22.

Dear reader, have you placed your life in submission to Jesus Christ by obeying the Gospel? He that believes and is baptized shall be saved (Mk. 16:16), and added by Jesus to His church (Acts 2:47). The two men in white apparel promised that Jesus Christ would one day **return** *in the same manner* that He ascended into heaven. When He does it will be for the final judgment of all mankind. Nobody knows the time of that return, so please do not wait to obey Jesus as your Savior and make Him Lord of your life!

*"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first,"* 1 Thess. 4:16. At this time He will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels to take vengeance on those who do not know God and who do not obey the Gospel (2 Thess. 1:8). You do not want to stand against Jesus when He comes the second and final time!

The apostles are "*witnesses*" (Acts 1:8) of these things and gave their lives as martyrs in proof of its authenticity.

Are you ready for Christ's return?

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