

What Did Christ Do? Lesson 6 – The Ascension of Christ

Introduction:

- After Jesus rose from the dead and spent time with His disciples, He _____ from the earth and returned to His Father in Heaven.

1. Jesus' _____ of His Ascension

John 14.12 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, **because I am going to the Father.**

John 17.13 But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

John 20.17 Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, **for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father; to my God and your God.’**”

2. The _____ of the Ascension

A. The ascension showed Jesus' true _____.

John 6.61a-62 “...Do you take offense at this? 62 Then what if you were to see the Son of Man **ascending** to where he was before?”

John 6.38 For I have **come down from heaven**, not to do my own will but the will of him who **sent me**.

John 16.5 But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’

- The ascension is evidence that Jesus is _____ and not merely a man.

B. The ascension was necessary to launch the disciples _____ into their ministries.

Acts 1.9-11 And when he had said these things, **as they were looking on**, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him **out of their sight**. 10 And **while they were gazing into heaven as he went**, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 11 and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you **stand looking** into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way **as you saw him go** into heaven.

Acts 1.9 And when he had said these things, **as they were looking on**, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him **out of their sight**.

Acts 1.10 And **while they were gazing into heaven as he went**, behold, two men stood by them in white robes,

Acts 1.11 and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you **stand looking** into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way **as you saw him go** into heaven.

- Why did Jesus ascend so publicly and _____?
- He wanted the disciples to know that He was _____ from the earth for good!
- Therefore, the disciples are not to wait around for Jesus’ next appearance, but are to go to Jerusalem and wait for the _____ so they can launch out into world evangelism in His power!

3. The _____ of the Ascension

A. When Jesus ascended, He went into a _____.

Acts 1.9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

- This cloud was probably a manifestation of God’s _____.

Exo 40.34-35 Then **the cloud covered the tent** of meeting, and the **glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle**. **35** And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because **the cloud settled on it**, and the **glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle**.

- By showing His glory, God was showing that Jesus was _____!

B. When Jesus ascended, the angels told the disciples that He would _____ in the same manner.

Acts 1.11 and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Matt 24.30 Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man **coming on the clouds** of heaven with power and great glory.

Rev 1.7 Behold, **he is coming with the clouds**, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

4. The _____ of the ascension

A. At His ascension, Jesus was _____ by the Father.

Acts 2.33a Being therefore **exalted at the right hand of God**, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit...

- His ascension was God's public _____ that Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords!

Phil 2.9–11 Therefore **God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10** so that at the name of Jesus every **knee should bow**, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and every tongue confess that **Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father

- Jesus was given the glory and honor He had _____ the world was made.

John 17.5 And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with **the glory that I had with you before the world existed**.

- The ascension is an important part of the story of the _____: Jesus left His Heavenly glory, came to earth to die as a man, rose from the dead, and was received back into Heaven in glory.

1Tim 3.16 Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

*He was manifested in the flesh,
vindicated by the Spirit,
seen by angels,
proclaimed by the nations,
believed on by the world,
taken up in glory.*

B. After His ascension, Jesus _____ at the right hand of the Father, and was given the honor and glory due to Him.

Psa 110.1 The Lord says to my Lord" Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.

Hebrews 1.3a After making purification for sins, **he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high**, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

- This is a very vivid demonstration of Christ's _____ for what he had accomplished!

Acts 7.55-56 But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and **saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.**

- It represents the Father's _____ with the completion of His Son's atoning work for us!
- It represents Jesus' _____ at the completion of His atoning work for us!

Heb 12.2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who **for the joy that was set before** him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

C. Jesus was given _____ over the entire universe.

Ephesians 1.20-21a ...that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 **far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named...**

1 Pet 3.22 ...who has gone into heaven, and is at the right hand of God, **with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.**

Acts 2.33 Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and **having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.**

5. The practical _____ of Jesus' ascension.

A. Even though Jesus is now seated at God's right hand, this does not mean that Jesus is _____ or _____ with the affairs of our lives.

B. Jesus told His disciples that it was _____ for them that He leave them.

John 16.2 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth, **it is to your advantage that I go away**, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

- If Jesus were still physically on earth, He could only be with a _____ believers at a time.
- He was taken physically from the earth so He could rule both heaven and earth more _____ by the Spirit's power.
- He sent the Holy Spirit so that His power would work within all those who believe, so that His ministry would bear spiritual fruit _____.

C. Jesus _____ for us as our high priest forever.

Hebrews 7.24-25 ...but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since **he always lives to make intercession for them.**

- Jesus is our priest forever who _____ for us!

1 Tim 2.5 For there is one God, and there is one **mediator** between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

- He stands before God for us so that our prayers might be _____.

D. We are _____ with Christ in all aspects of His work of salvation.

- His ascension _____ our ascension.

John 14.22 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and **will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.**

- His ascension is _____ of our eternal home in Heaven.

John 14.2-3 In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that **I go to prepare a place for you?**

- We share in Christ's _____ over the universe:

Eph 2.6 ...and raised us up with him and **seated us with him** in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

- In Heaven, we will _____ angels.

1 Cor 6.3a Do you not know that we are to judge angels?

- In eternity, we will exercise authority over all _____.

Heb 2.6-8 *It has been testified somewhere, “What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him? You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, **putting everything in subjection under his feet .”***

Rev 2.26-27 *The one who conquers and keeps my works until the end, **to him I will give authority over the nations**, and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, **even as I myself have received authority from my Father.***

Rev 3.21 *The one who conquers, **I will grant him to sit with me on my throne**, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.*