

## Lord's Day 18

Matthew 28:16ff; Acts 1:1-11; Ascension Day

### OUR SAVIOR'S ASCENSION

#### I. The Significant Event (five things).

- A. The disciples saw Jesus rise up and a cloud actively received Him (Acts 1:9).
- B. His ascension indicates His previous glory (John 3:13; 6:38; Eph. 4:9,10).
- C. The Savior's ascension is a change of location - heaven (Heb. 9:24; John 14:2,3).
- D. In the ascension Jesus presented His perfect sacrifice to the Father.
- E. He now is active in heaven at God's right hand: as King, as Advocate, as Intercessor.

#### II. The significant advantages (five things).

- A. Now He can be with us in a much closer sense (Matt. 28:20).
- B. The advantages of His being in heaven as our advocate and intercessor.
  - 1. Presenting His sacrificial death to the judgment seat of God, He constantly shows why we are righteous.
  - 2. As our intercessor, He constantly pleads for God to bless.
- C. His ascension is a cause for great joy among believers, though the disciples were initially saddened.
- D. Essentially the church ascended with Christ, our Head (Heb. 10:19-22).
- E. Practical results for us (two things).
  - 1. As Jesus was other-worldly, so now the members of His body are in this world, but not of it.
  - 2. And we increasingly long for heaven (II Cor. 5:2-5; Col. 3:1,2).