

I. The completion of Jesus' work

- A. When Jesus returns to the Father, he has done the work he came to do
- B. What remains is the dynamic application of what he has already been done
- C. Shows what the life of the church is to be like – self-denial and cross-bearing

II. The enthronement of Jesus as Christ and king

- A. Matthew 28:18; Mark 16:19; Luke 22:69; cf. Acts 2:33; 5:31; 7:55-56; John 12:32 cf. 18:36; Psalm 2:7-8; Philippians 2:9-11
- B. What does it mean that Jesus Christ is King (or Lord)?
- C. Is this just a play for power?

III. The sending of the Holy Spirit to the church

- A. Matthew 28:20; John 14:16ff.; 2 Corinthians 3:17; Acts 1:4
- B. What does the coming of the Holy Spirit mean?
- C. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2; 4:31; 8:15-17; 9:17-18; 10:44-47; 13:52; 19:6 cf. Luke 11:13)

IV. The mission of the church

- A. Jesus' disciples, the visible church, do greater works than he did. (John 14:12)
- B. "Make disciples of all nations"
- C. "You are my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:22; 1 Corinthians 3:9; Philippians 2:13)

V. The promise of his return

- A. Jesus has accomplished all that needs to be done. He reigns; his kingdom is now.
 - i. But it is not yet fully to be seen. Why? God is patient with the world.
- B. When Jesus returns it will be to judge and to manifest his kingdom: his work of redeeming sinners will be complete.
- C. Then what is true of Jesus will be true of all of his people and of the world: resurrection, glory, justice, and coming home to one another and to our Creator.
- D. What now? (Acts 1:10-11; 1 Corinthians 15:58)