



**Acts 1:9–11 (NLT)**

After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!"

**John 1:14 (NIV)**

The Word became Flesh..

**Acts 1:11 (NLT)**

Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!

**Philippians 3:20–21 (ESV)**

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body.

**1 Timothy 2:5 (CSB)**

For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus..

**St Augustine - City of God (426 AD)**

It is incredible that Jesus Christ should have risen in the flesh and ascended with flesh into heaven...It is indubitable that the resurrection of Christ, and His ascension into heaven with the flesh in which He rose, is already preached and believed in the whole world. If it is not credible, how is it that it has already received credence in the whole world?

**Ephesians 1:20–22 (NLT)**

[God] raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church.

**John 14:2 (CSB)**

In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

**Romans 8:29 (CSB)**

..the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

**Ephesians 2:1–3 (NLT)**

Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else.

**Ephesians 2:4 - 6 (NLT)**

But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) **For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.**

**Colossians 3:1–3 (NLT)**

Since you have been **raised to new life with Christ**, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits

in the place of honor at God's right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. For you died to this life, and **your real life is hidden with Christ in God.**

**John 20:17 (NLT)**

Don't cling to me, for I haven't yet ascended to the Father.

**Tim Keller**

The ascension is not the absence of Christ. It's the increased and heightened presence of Christ.

**Ephesians 4:20–21 (NASB 2020)**

But you did not learn Christ in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus,

**Ephesians 2:17 (CSB)**

[Jesus] came and proclaimed the good news of peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.

**John Calvin**

We must make the invisible kingdom visible in our midst.

**Matthew 11:11 (NIV)**

Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

**John 14:12 (CSB)**

Truly I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do. **And he will do even greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.**

**Romans 8:10-11 (The Message)**

It stands to reason, doesn't it, that if the alive-and-present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, **he'll do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus, bringing you alive to himself?** When God lives and breathes in you (and he does, as surely as he did in Jesus), you are delivered from that dead life.

**With his Spirit living in you, your body will be as alive as Christ's!**

**Romans 8:28–39 (NIV)**

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died - more than that, who was raised to life - is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.