

The  
ASCENSION  
of Our Lord

EXALTED, INTERCEDING, RETURNING

*He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”*

*When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.*

*—Luke 24.46-52*

*And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!*

*Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

*—Philippians 2.8-11*

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# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

- ▶ The ascended and exalted Lord has poured out the Holy Spirit on the Church.

*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.*

*—Acts 2.33*

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# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

- ▶ The ascended and exalted Lord applies the blessings of salvation to the Church.

*God exalted Jesus at His right hand as Prince and Savior, that He might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel.*

—Acts 5.31

*But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: “When He ascended on high, He took many captives and gave gifts to His people.”*

—Ephesians 4.7

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# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

- ▶ The ascended and exalted Lord intercedes in prayer for completed salvation of His body, the Church.

*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.*

*—Romans 5.34*

*Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them. Such a high priest truly meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.*

*—Hebrews 7.25-26*

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# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

- ▶ The ascended and exalted Lord reigns in authority and sufficiency on behalf of the Church.

*. . . far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the Church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.*

*—Ephesians 1.21-23*

*For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority.*

*—Colossians 2.9-10*

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# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

- ▶ The ascended and exalted Lord is preparing a place for us as His bride, in expectation of returning for His body, the Church.

*My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.*

*—John 14.2-3*

*Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. . . . For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.*

*—Colossians 3.1, 3-4*

*Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. And when He had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people. And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because You were slain, and with Your blood you purchased for God men from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."*

*Revelation 5.6-10*

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