

ASCENSION DAY: JESUS NOW IN HEAVEN

May 21, 2022

Bible Readings

Take a few minutes to read the Bible verses listed and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in how this verse applies to you this week.

Acts 1:1-11

Memory Verse

¹⁰ but as he went up, they kept looking up into the sky. Suddenly two men dressed in white clothes were standing there beside them. ¹¹ They said, "Why are you men from Galilee standing here and looking up into the sky? Jesus has been taken to heaven. But he will come back in the same way you have seen him go."

Acts 1:10b-11



CASEY'S DAY

written by Ron Vandenburg
illustrated by Chad Thompson



In Acts 1, we read about the last moments of Jesus' time on earth. He told his disciples what he wanted them to do next, and then he left. Why did Jesus have to leave? What could be good about Jesus going?

God the Creator had a plan. From the beginning, God had planned to welcome us into his life as his children. The Bible says "Before the world was created, God had Christ choose us to live with him...to be God's own adopted children" (Ephesians 1:4-5). To do this, Jesus, the Son of God, came to us, lived, taught, suffered, died, was buried, and rose again. Then Jesus ascended into heaven. That's God's entire plan. But how does Jesus' departure bring us into God's family? It feels like we're only separated, right?

Think about this: Jesus Christ ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father, which means a human being is living face to face with the Father forever. That's right. Jesus, who has DNA

strands, blood, a digestive system, and a nose, now lives in heaven and communicates with God the Father for us. This is Jesus' ministry happening right now. Jesus is King, and from his throne, he pours out his blessings.

So what do we do now? In Acts 1, the story ended with two angels asking, "Why are you men from Galilee standing here and looking up into the sky?" It's time for us to get to work and be the hands and feet of Jesus on earth. So don't hesitate—ask your friend and brother, the King of all things, to pour out his gifts! What do you need to live your faith today? Ask Jesus for it.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for your plan to send Jesus to bring us into your family. Thank you, King Jesus Christ, that you died, were raised to life, and now sit at God's right side, speaking to him for us. Jesus, pour out your gifts on us so that we can be your hands and feet on earth. In Jesus' name, Amen.

written by Ron VandenBurg

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