

Risen

JESUS ASCENDED TO HEAVEN

WEEK 4



ACTS 1:11
LUKE 24:50-53

Luke 24:50-53 NIV

When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Acts 1:1-3 NIV

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

Acts 1:4-5 NIV

On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Acts 1:6-8 NIV

Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:9-11 NIV

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

PROMISE

PRIORITY

PRESENCE

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Acts 1:4-5, 8a NIV

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Daniel 7:13 ^{NIV}

In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence.

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Acts 1:6-8 NIV

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Acts 1:10-11 NIV

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹“Men of Galilee,” they said, “**why do you stand here looking into the sky?** This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

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Acts 1:9-11 NIV

After he said this, **he was taken up before their very eyes**, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, **who has been taken from you into heaven**, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

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John 20:17 ^{NIV}

Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

“A dead savior is no savior at all. If Jesus were still in a grave, he could do no one any good. But raised and ascended to the side of the Father, Jesus can empower his children and enable his church. He reigns, seeing all that everyone does and thinks...the death and resurrection of Jesus are important, but more important is his reign, both presently and in the age to come. ...Jesus is not passively sitting in heaven awaiting his return. He lives, administers the benefits of salvation, and rules in anticipation of a more visible rule to come.”

- Darrell Bock

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Acts 1:1 NIV

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that **Jesus began** to do and to teach...

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Hebrews 7:25 NIV

Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

“We all tend to have some small pocket of our life where we have difficulty believing the forgiveness of God reaches. We say we are totally forgiven. ...But there’s that one deep, dark part of our lives, even our present lives, that seems so intractable, so ugly, so beyond recovery. ‘To the uttermost’ in Hebrews 7:25 means: God’s forgiving, redeeming, restoring touch reaches down into the darkest crevices of our souls, those places where we are most ashamed, most defeated. More than this: those crevices of sin are themselves the places where Christ loves us the most. ...We cannot sin our way out of his tender care.”

- Dane Ortlund, *Gentle & Lowly*

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Acts 1:11 ^{NIV}

"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? **This same Jesus**, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

This is the significance of the doctrine of Christ's ascension: he went into heaven with the very body, reflecting his full humanity, that was raised out of the tomb. ...One implication of this truth of Christ's permanent humanity is that when we see the feeling and passions and affections of the incarnate Christ toward sinners and sufferers as given to us in the four Gospels, *we are seeing who Jesus is for us today.*

- Dane Ortlund, *Gentle & Lowly*

**The ascension reveals our hope for
tomorrow, our purpose for today,
and the unchanging heart of Jesus.**