

Ascension and Exaltation

030505-2

Hello! This is Dorothy -

I want to just talk a little bit today about the ascension and exaltation of our Lord Jesus Christ. They were necessary. They were necessary to complete the redemptive work of Christ. His work was not finished just when He rose from the dead, but He had yet to present the Blood of the Atonement in the presence of the Father as the completed work. That is the living Blood, which He had shed for your sin and for my sin. When He arose, we remember, He was amongst His own people. They touched Him, they saw Him and He said that His body did not have blood. His Blood had been protected and preserved to be brought into the presence of the Father Himself, because that is the living Blood. It was that very Blood, which was holy and the complete sacrifice of the work Christ did in dying for your sin and for mine.

Jesus Christ, when He came to that amazing place that He was resurrected, knew that He had a little time with His own. As He was here, He spoke encouragingly, although there was much fear, questioning, doubt and all the little stories seem to point to this, yet, Yet, always, He was speaking of the future. He was speaking about what was going to happen, because He was pointing to the ascension. You say, "What is *the ascension*?" Well, it is described in three of the

Gospels in different ways, but we read in **Matthew chapter 28** -

18 And Jesus came and spoke unto them - His disciples - saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Then He did not leave it there. He did not just say, "Well, you go; I'm going up to heaven." No, He promised that He was going to send His Spirit. He showed that it was a good thing He went, because there would be the multiplication of His life through each believer. **(John 14:16-20).**

Then we know that special, special passage where He came to His own.

As He was sharing with them and promising the power of the Holy Spirit, we read in **Acts chapter 1 and verse 9** - . . . **while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.** Have you ever thought about it? He did not need some amazing new rocket to thrust Him forth! No, He was just taken up through the clouds. How could he do that? Because He is God of the universe! He is the One who created the heavens and the earth. Of course, He can go up through the air and He can come back through the air. He is God! And, as He went forth, we read . . . **he was taken up and a cloud received him out of their sight.**

And what about those who were standing watching?

10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? . . . In other words, “What are you doing spending time

looking up? Don’t you understand these things? Don’t you realize you are not going to get very far by just looking back at the yesterday or the thing that happened five minutes ago?” Look now to what is happening in your life, dear friend, as you understand that you can ever dwell on the yesterday and miss what God is saying for this moment, which is something totally different. For he continues, as they were gazing up to heaven, . . . **this same Jesus, which is taken**

up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. In other words, he is saying, “It is for you to realize that God has something very specific now.” This is a good thing that happened, that Jesus went, because if Jesus had not gone, there would be no giving of the Other Self of Jesus, as it were, the Holy Spirit God the Holy Spirit, co-equal with God the Son and God the Father - the triune Godhead. God the Holy Spirit was now literally given. Do you realize what this means? They were being told the emphasis is on that individual to understand now they could receive the Holy Spirit.

Let me just explain what happened. It not only says that He would be taken up, but you know, in **John 3:13**, we read - **And no man hath**

ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. Could you imagine? He was going Home! He was going back; He had left Home; He had left Heaven's glory and had willingly fulfilled the plan of the Godhead that He would come and take upon Himself a body, and become man like you and me. The difference was by His Blood; He was sinless; He was spotless. By His precious Blood, by the Holy Spirit, He was conceived in that virgin's womb. Here He was, ascending now back Home, going Home. Oh, my, how the heavens must have been so excited! But He was not only going Home, in turn now, He was going to see a reproduction of a totally new body, which was His Body, of which He was the Head and that Body was to be made up of those who were to be born again in Jesus' Name.

Are you born again? Oh, may you receive Him. May you come to know Him this day. Write us and we will help you further.

In His precious Name. Amen.