

*Hello! This is Dorothy -*

Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, is God's love gift to the world. Believers are the Father's love gift to Jesus Christ. You know, some of us don't understand what really took place at the Ascension, but when you do understand this is from the Word of God, it really changes the position in which you are dealing with your problems right now.

Following the death, burial, resurrection of our Lord Jesus, we read in **Acts 1** —

**9** . . . *He -Jesus -* **was caught up, and a cloud received and carried Him away out of their sight - out of the sight of the disciples.** But what happened on the other side of the ascension cloud from the place where the disciples were? It was like a chariot as this cloud came and it was as if He was brought back. It had been sent to receive Him in this glorious chariot from heaven and bring Him back to His Father's house.

In **Ephesians chapter 1**, we read -

**17** **[For I always pray to] the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, that He may grant you a spirit of wisdom and revelation . . .** Do you ever pray for that? Do you ever ask

others to know of that when you pray for them? . . . **[of insight into mysteries and secrets] in the [deep and intimate] knowledge of Him,**

**18** By having the eyes of your heart flooded with light, so that you can know and understand the hope to which He has called you, and how rich in His glorious inheritance in the saints (His set-apart ones) *-those who know Him personally.*

**19** And [so you can know and understand] what is the immeasurable and unlimited and surpassing greatness of His power in and for us who believe, as demonstrated in the working of His mighty strength.

**20** Which He exerted in Christ - *now this is key* - when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His [own] right hand in the heavenly [places],

**21** Far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and every name that is named [above every title that can be conferred], not only in this age and in the world, but also in the age and the world which are to come.

**22** And He has put all things under His feet *-this is Jesus -* and has appointed Him the universal and supreme Head of the church [a headship exercised throughout the church]. *- this is our Lord Jesus.*

Back in **Psalm 8:6**, we read -

**6** You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet.

“Oh,” you say, “what is all that about?” It is to show that the Lord Jesus Christ today is seated in the heavenlies and all power and all authority are beneath His feet. You and I are in Christ. Therefore, that is our position. We not only died with Him, but we were buried with Him and we rose with Him, and, praise God, we are ascended with Him! This was a revolutionary Scripture to me as a very young Christian, when I suddenly saw I was seated with Christ in heavenly places and what is beneath His feet is beneath my feet! What happens in terms of an attack, we hand that over to the Lord Himself to handle. Therefore, we can reign in the authority and power of Jesus as the enemy is no longer trying to hold it over us.

**Ephesians 6:12** is very, very important for those who love the Lord Jesus and understand this. Principalities and powers and might and dominion and every name that is named is not only in this world, but also in that which is to come. In other words, this whole array was used to contest our Saviour’s path as He ascended to Heaven. Think of it: He rose before His disciples in this cloud, this chariot, but then there was an enormous warfare. We don’t think about this warfare, but this is what Scripture teaches and we have to understand ---

**12 For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms,**

**against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) spheres.**

These principalities and powers were fallen angels under the headship of Satan, the forces which attempted to stop Christ from going back to Heaven. What do you mean? Well, Satan could not do much. He tried to stop the babies being accepted and had them killed; he tried to stop Jesus even making His way to the Cross by having Him nearly killed by all the terrible things that were done to His body in that dreadful false trial that was put on Him.

But here is Jesus and Jesus is perfect Man and Jesus is going back to His Father! There is a perfect Man in Heaven and that perfect Man was contested even in the heavenlies but, victoriously, He went right through the heavenlies, seated on the right hand of God the Father for you and for me. Let us rejoice in what He has done and where we are in Him!

*In Jesus' Name. Amen.*