



Pastor-Teacher | Chris Regas | 5.14.2023

Jesus Continues His Ministry on Earth

Lesson 4 • Acts 1:9-11

*In the Ascension Jesus **begins** His Ministry in Heaven and **continues** His Ministry on Earth! (Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-11)*

How Does Jesus' 40 Day Ministry Prepares Us for the Ascension? Acts 1:3-8

1. The bodily resurrection of God's Son prepares us for His **BODILY** ascension. Acts 1:3a
2. The blessing of God's Spirit is given **AFTER** the ascension. Acts 1:4-5; Luke 22:14-23
 - The New Covenant **Mediator** is Jesus Himself - *He is the New Covenant!* Hebrews 8:6; 9:15; 12:24
 - The New Covenant was **established** ("cut") with Jesus' shed blood at His crucifixion! Luke 22:19-21; Hebrews 9:15-18
 - The New Covenant was **guaranteed** with the Jesus' resurrection from the dead! Romans 1:4; Hebrews 7:22
 - The New Covenant **blessings** begin with the Jesus' giving the Spirit as a down payment. Acts 2; Ephesians 1:13-14
3. The coming of God's Kingdom occurs in a different **ORDER** with the ascension. Acts 1:3b, 6-7; Luke 22:14-18

"Lord, is now the time when you are restoring the kingdom to Israel?"
4. God's mission to reach Gentiles becomes the **PRIORITY** between the ascension and His final revelation. Acts 1:8

Jesus Continues His Ministry on Earth from Heaven – Acts 1:9-11

1. In the Ascension Jesus Is **WELCOMED** Back Home by His Father. (1:9)

- God the Father is **EAGER** to welcome His Son back home!
- God the Son ascends back home to God's **PRESENCE** in God's **PLACE**.

2. In the Ascension Jesus **BEGINS** to Dwell with His Father in Glory. (1:9)

- The Glory Cloud **RECEIVES** the ascending Jesus out of their sight.

Jesus Is Received Up into God's Glory...

1. **HISTORICALLY**
2. **BODILY**
3. **LOCALLY**
4. **VISIBLY**

Ascension Question: *WHERE* is Jesus right now?
Also, an Ascension Question: *WHERE* are you right now?

5. **GLORIOUSLY**

- The Glory Cloud **REMINDS** us that the King has **now** ascended into heaven, but His Kingdom is **not yet** on earth!
Exodus 13:21-22; Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 17:5; Luke 21:27; Acts 1:9; Revelation 1:7; 21:22-27

3. In the Ascension Jesus **CONTINUES** His Ministry on Earth from Heaven. (1:10-11)

Ascension Question: *WHAT is Jesus doing right now in heaven?*

Also, an Ascension Question: *WHAT are you doing right now?*

Observation: *"There's lot going on there!"*

- **Their Approach:** *"BEHOLD two men in white clothing STOOD BESIDE them."*
- **Their Address:** *"Men of GALILEE,"*
- **Their Asking:** *"why do you STAND LOOKING into the sky?"*
- **Their Assurance:** *"This JESUS who has been taken up from you into heaven, will COME in just the SAME WAY as you have watched Him go into heaven."*

Jesus Continues What He "Began to Do and Teach"...

- **THROUGH** His disciples and local churches who go as His witnesses to ends of the earth!
- **UNTIL** He descends in the same way He ascended!

Jesus Will Return Down to Earth Just as He Was Received Up into Heaven

1. **Historically**
2. **Bodily**
3. **Locally** - Zechariah 14:4
4. **Visibly** - Zechariah 12:10; Revelation 19:11-16
5. **Gloriously** - Matthew 24:29-31; Acts 3:18-22

*"But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and **THEY WILL SEE the SON of MAN COMING on the CLOUDS of the SKY with POWER AND GREAT GLORY.** And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other." Matthew 24:29-31*

LOOK UP to the ascended Christ and be empowered to **LIVE OUT** His message and mission!