

ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN

We Believe #7

July 16, 2023

Big Idea: We believe Jesus ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

THREE MEANINGS OF “HEAVEN” IN THE BIBLE

1. _____ or _____.
2. The _____ of God.
3. A _____ for God.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY “JESUS ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN”?

- Heaven is a real _____ but a different _____.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD?

- Jesus has been given _____ under God the Father. (Ephesians 1:20-21)
- The message of the Ascension is that Jesus our Savior _____.

THE ASCENSION OF JESUS GIVES US HOPE

1. We have hope because Jesus our Savior will _____
_____. (1 Corinthians 15:24-26)
2. We have hope because Jesus our Savior is our _____
before God.
 - For _____ (Hebrews 7:25)
 - For help in time of _____. (Hebrews 4:14-16)

DAILY REFLECTIONS ON THE ASCENSION

Monday

- Read Acts 1:1-11; 2:29-36. Where is Jesus after the ascension? What is He doing there? Eventually Jesus will defeat all the enemies of God (v. 34-35). Does it give you hope knowing Jesus is in control and will one day bring an end to all evil? Consider starting a day-long or week-long fast from secular news. It could replace anxiety and anger with hope!

Tuesday

- Read Ephesians 1:15-23 three times. Underline or list the things Paul prayed for the believers in Ephesus and by extension for you? Pray the same prayer for someone you love. Pray it for someone who is facing difficulty. Pray it for yourself.

Wednesday

- Read Ephesians 2:1-10. What does it mean to be “seated...in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus?” (v. 6-7) What did we do to deserve this? (v. 8-9). Since we are not saved “by works” but for “good works” (v. 9-10), ask God to show you what “good works” He has “prepared in advance” for you to do.

Thursday

- Read Hebrews 4. How do people enter the “rest” of God? (v. 3) How have you found the Bible to be “living and active” in your life? (v. 12) Does it comfort or convict you knowing you are not “hidden from His sight”? (v.13). Read v. 14-16 again. Because Jesus ascended to become your high priest you have access to God’s grace in your time of need. Bring your needs to Him now.

Friday

- Read Hebrews 12:1-11. List what you are commanded to do in v. 1. The race is “set before you.” Runners in a race don’t choose their own course. How does “looking to Jesus” help you run the race? What does God do to strengthen you for the race? (v. 7-11) God never wastes your pain but uses it to train you for righteousness and finishing the race.