

Christology Lesson 8

The ascension of current work of Jesus Christ

Part 1 — The Ascension Itself

Read Acts 1:1–11 and Revelation 5

- What details in the Acts passage emphasize that Jesus bodily ascended?
- The ascension ends His _____ and begins His _____
- What are the different perspectives and emphases between the 2 readings?
- How did the angel's message encourage the disciples then, as well as for us?

Read Luke 24:50–53

- As Jesus blesses them, He is acting as our _____
- Luke emphasizes *joy*, not sorrow. What caused that reaction?

Read Ephesians 1:19–23

- What does the right of hand of God mean?
- Christ rules all things for the sake of the _____
- Note that Christ's humanity now shares in His divinity. How does this impact our teaching on the Lord's Supper?
- What comfort do you find in the teaching that Christ fills all things?

Part 2 — Christ's Present Ministry

Christ reigns as King, read: 1 Corinthians 15:25–27

- As King, Christ actively subdues _____
- How does Christ's present kingship change how we view world events?

More on backside

Christ intercedes as High Priest, read: Hebrews 7:23–28 & Hebrews 9:24-26

- How does Christ's priesthood compare to the OT priesthood?
- How does the presence of Christ *on our behalf* before God impact you?
- How does knowing Jesus intercedes for you personally comfort you in times of guilt or weakness?

Christ's presence with His Church, read: Matthew 28:18–20 & Mark 14:22-24

- What commands and promises did Christ give the Church before His ascension? How are these connected to His ascension?
- How is He with us in the Sacrament of the Altar?

Christ Sends the Spirit, read: John 16:7 & Acts 2:33

- Why did the Spirit need to come to us? How is He active in the Church and the world?
- Through the Gospel, the Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies His Church.

Conclusion

- The Ascension is part of Christ's exaltation.
- Christ reigns at the right hand of God **for us**.
- He is actively present: ruling, interceding, sending the Spirit, and coming to us in Word and Sacrament.
- We await His bodily return with hope and confidence.