

Christ's Ascension

Acts 1:1-11

Intro: The Easter story does not conclude with the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Easter concludes forty days after Christ's resurrection with His ascension back to His Father in heaven. Christ returned to a place described as high and exalted, a place of sovereign control and authority at the right hand of God (Luke 24:50-53 & Acts 1:9-11).

I. Christ's Ascension Was Anticipated by Prophets and by Christ

A. Prophets anticipated Christ's ascension

Isaiah 52:13—

Psalm 16:8-11—

Psalm 110:1-5—

Matthew 22:41-44—

B. Christ anticipated His ascension



II. Christ's Appearances to His Disciples Acts 1:1-8

A. Christ presented Himself alive for forty days (Acts 1:3a; **1 Cor. 15:3-6**)

B. Christ spoke to His disciples concerning the kingdom of God (v. 3b, v. 6)

Christ commanded His disciples to wait for what the Father had promised: *The baptism of or with the Holy Spirit* (vv. 4-5, 8; **cf. John 14:16 and 26**).

C. Christ commissioned His disciples to be His witnesses (vv. 6-8)

III. Christ's Ascension Back to His Father Acts 1:9-11; Luke 24:50-51

A. Christ led His disciples out to the Mount of Olives and blessed them (Luke 24:50)

B. Christ ascended bodily into heaven (v. 9)

C. Christ's ascension confirmed by two angels (vv. 10-11)

Daniel 7:13-14—

Zech. 14:3-4—

Matt. 24:30—

Rev. 19:11—

D. Conclusion to Christ's ascension: The disciples call on God in prayer (vv. 12-14)