

“Forty Days after Easter”

Pastor Jeff Alexander + May 28, 2017

What do the Scriptures teach about Christ’s ascension?

They teach that 40 days after His resurrection, Christ, in the presence of His disciples, ascended bodily into the glory of His Father, to prepare a place for us in heaven.

Ephesians 4:10

He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.

John 14:2-3

“My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am.”

What does it mean that Christ sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty?

With this expression Scripture teaches that Christ, as true man, is not only present everywhere, but also now fully exercises His divine power over the whole universe.

Ephesians 1:20-21

He raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

What comfort do we get from Christ’s ascension to the right hand of God?

1. As our Prophet, Christ sends people to proclaim the saving Gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit.

John 16:7

“But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.”

2. As our Priest, Christ pleads and prays for us before the Father.

Romans 8:34

Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

3. As our King, Christ rules and protects His church and governs over all the world especially for the benefit of His church.

Psalms 110:1

The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”