

**“THE RESURRECTION TO
ASCENSION”
ACTS 1:1-11**

INTRODUCTION

While we know much about the life, crucifixion and second coming of Jesus, much is overlooked about his 40 day ministry on earth after the resurrection, including the ascension. Certainly this is no less important than any other part of His ministry. Notice that the book starts with what Jesus began to do and teach. Many theologians have thought that the Church is the Kingdom of God. Scripture indicates that Jesus *brings* the Kingdom with Him. One of the greatest prophecy conferences that ever occurred took place during the 40 days that Jesus spoke on things pertaining to the Kingdom of God!

FEASTS

In the scriptures, there are 3 feasts in the first month: Passover, Unleavened Bread and Firstfruits. Fifty days later is the feast of Pentecost, or the sixth day of the third month. At this time there were loaves waved, which prophetically signified the birth of the church. There is then a gap of several months with the next feast being the Feast of the Trumpets on the first day of the seventh month, Rosh Hoshana. This is the trumpet sounding, or the time to pick up and move, (the Rapture). Next is Yom Kippur on the tenth day of the seventh month or the Day of Atonement. This signifies the second coming, **Romans 11**, when all Israel will be saved. Finally, there will be the week-long Feast of Tabernacles in the seventh month. While the first six feasts have some work involved, the last one is all about rest! This signifies the Kingdom Age!

WAIT!

Jesus commanded His disciples to "wait", which is one of the most difficult of commands! Don't do anything, just wait! They were waiting for the Holy Spirit, of which there are over 70 references in the book of Acts. The events in Acts were done by men full of the Holy Spirit. They all knew that Jesus would bring the Kingdom Age. He didn't deny that. While they wanted to know the schedule of the end times, He was changing their focus.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, the Godhead. The Holy Spirit is a "He", not an "it". **John 16:7, 8, 13, 14**. In Acts, once people are saved, the Holy Spirit came upon them. Notice the Samaritans in **chapter 8**, and Paul in **chapter 9**. Even John's disciples in **chapter 19**. The purpose is to be a witness for Him in distance places as well as home. The Holy Spirit and the Ascension are tied together. Here are several reasons why it is significant: The Ascension is mentioned 20 times in the Gospels and Acts; Jesus mentioned it many times; It happens at the end of Luke; and there are 8 raptures mentioned in the Scriptures: (Enoch, Elijah, Isaiah, Jesus, the Child (**Revelation 12:5**), Philip, 2 witnesses (**Revelation 11**), and Paul).

CONSIDER

Here's the significance of the Ascension of Jesus: (1) It lets us know He is ruler of all. It reminds us of His position of authority, **Hebrews 1:1-3; Phil 2:9**. (2) It changes the way we view Him and interact with Him, **Revelation 1:12-18**. (3) It affirms that He is coming again. (**Verse 11** is a promise!) **Revelation 19:11-16**. (4) It reminds us of what Jesus lives for now, **Romans 8:34**. He is our great High Priest. While Satan accuses us, Jesus defends us. (5) It was necessary for our sanctification, **John 16:7, 8, 13, 14**), and (6) He is now seated. It is finished!!! As Christians we can't add anything to His finished work or we would ruin it!

PRAY.....

- * That the Lord would honor the preaching of the Word through our live streaming on Wed. and Sun.
- * That God's wisdom would be granted to our government leaders.
- * That the Holy Spirit would refocus us and help us to stand strong in such a time as this!