# ~ASCENSION (873)

- " Effect On Disciples
- .. The Inauguration Of A New And Living Way
- ·· Correctness Of The Term
- ·· Why Essential
- The return of Jesus Christ to heaven 40 days after his resurrection. The scene of Jesus ascension was the Mount of Olives
- And after he had said these things, while they were looking on, he was lifted up and a cloud caught him up from their vision.

  (Acts of Apostles 1:9)
- Then they returned to Jerusalem from a mountain called the Mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem, being a Sabbath day's journey away. (Acts of Apostles 1:12)
- Near the town of Bethany.
- But he led them out as far as Bethany, and he lifted up his hands and blessed them. (Luke 24:50)
- Which town lies on the eastern side of the Mount of Olives. Those witnessing the ascension were a limited group, his faithful apostles.
- Until the day that he was taken up, after he had given commandment through Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he chose. (Acts of Apostles 1:2)
- And they said; Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus who was received up from you into the sky will come thus in the same manner as you have beheld him going into the sky. (Acts of Apostles 1:11)
- Then they returned to Jerusalem from a mountain called the Mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem, being a Sabbath day's journey away. (Acts of Apostles 1:12)
- So, when they had entered, they went up into the upper chamber, where they were staying, Peter as well as John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and

Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the zealous one, and Judas the son of James. (Acts of Apostles 1:13)

- The record states that while they were looking on, he was lifted up and a cloud caught him up from their vision. They continued looking into the sky until advised otherwise by the angels, who informed them.
- And after he had said these things, while they were looking on, he was lifted up and a cloud caught him up from their vision.

  (Acts of Apostles 1:9)
- And as they were gazing into the sky while he was on his way, also, look! Two men in white garments stood alongside them. (Acts of Apostles 1:10)
- And they said; Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus who was received up from you into the sky will come thus in the same manner as you have beheld him going into the sky. (Acts of Apostles 1:11)
- It is to be noted that the angels referred to the manner Greek, tro'pos not the form Greek, mor-phe' in which Jesus departed. As the cloud caught him up, he became invisible to human eyes.
- The Acts account shows that his ascension was without ostentation or fanfare, discerned by only a few faithful followers and that for only the initial part of the ascension. The manner of his ascension was such that it would qualify the apostles to serve as witnesses of that fact, even as they were of Jesus resurrection.
- To these also by many positive proofs he showed himself alive after he had suffered, being seen by them throughout forty days and telling the things about the kingdom of God. (Acts of Apostles 1:3)
- Thus, he did not simply disappear from them, as he did earlier from the two disciples at Emmaus, or as the angel who had appeared to Gideon vanished from his sight.
- At that their eyes were fully opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from them. (Luke 24:31)
- Then Yehowah's angel thrust out the tip of the staff that was in

his hand and touched the meat and the unfermented cakes, and fire began to ascend out of the rock and to consume the meat and the unfermented cakes. As for Yehowah's angel, he vanished from his sight. (Judges 6:21)

- Consequently Gideon realized that it was Yehowah's angel. At once Gideon said; Alas, Sovereign Lord Yehowah, for the reason that I have seen Yehowah's angel face to face! (Judges 6:22)
- To an extent, his ascension was more like that of the angel who appeared to Manoah and his wife. He had them prepare a sacrifice, and as the flame ascended from off the altar heavenward, then Yehowah's angel ascended in the flame of the altar while Manoah and his wife were looking on.
- So it came about that, as the flame ascended from off the altar heavenward, then Yehowah's angel ascended in the flame of the altar while Manoah and his wife were looking on. At once they fell upon their faces to the earth. (Judges 13:20)
- To these also by many positive proofs he showed himself alive after he had suffered, being seen by them throughout forty days and telling the things about the kingdom of God. (Acts of Apostles 1:3)
- And while he was meeting with them he gave them the orders; Do not withdraw from Jerusalem, but keep waiting for what the Father has promised, about which you heard from me. (Acts of Apostles 1:4)
- Because John, indeed, baptized with water, but you will be baptized in Holy Spirit not many days after this. (Acts of Apostles 1:5)
- When, now, they had assembled, they went asking him; Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time? (Acts of Apostles 1:6)
- He said to them; It does not belong to you to get knowledge of the times or seasons which the Father has placed in his own jurisdiction. (Acts of Apostles 1:7)
- But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit arrives upon you, and you will be witnesses of me both in Jerusalem and in all

Judea and Samaria and to the most distant part of the earth. (Acts of Apostles 1:8)

- And after he had said these things, while they were looking on, he was lifted up and a cloud caught him up from their vision.

  (Acts of Apostles 1:9)
- Shows that Jesus ascension took place 40 days from the time of his resurrection, there is a time lapse between the events recorded at;
- On the first day of the week, however, they went very early to the tomb, bearing the spices they had prepared. (Luke 24:1)
- But they found the stone rolled away from the memorial tomb. (Luke 24:2)
- And when they entered they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. (Luke 24:3)
- While they were in perplexity over this, look! two men in flashing clothing stood by them. (Luke 24:4)
- As the women became frightened and kept their faces turned to the ground, the men said to them; Why are you looking for the living One among the dead? (Luke 24:5)
- He is not here, but has been raised up. Recall how he spoke to you while he was yet in Galilee. (Luke 24:6)
- Saying that the Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be impaled and yet on the third day rise. (Luke 24:7)
- So they called his sayings to mind. (Luke 24:8)
- And they returned from the memorial tomb and reported all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. (Luke 24:9)
- They were the Magdalene Mary, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. Also, the rest of the women with them were telling the apostles these things. (Luke 24:10)
- However, these sayings appeared as nonsense to them and they would not believe the women. (Luke 24:11)

- But Peter rose and ran to the memorial tomb, and, stooping forward, he beheld the bandages alone. So he went off, wondering within himself at what had occurred. (Luke 24:12)
- But, look! On that very day two of them were journeying to a village about seven miles distant from Jerusalem and named Emmaus. (Luke 24:13)
- And they were conversing with each other over all these things that had come about. (Luke 24:14)
- Now as they were conversing and discussing, Jesus himself approached and began walking with them. (Luke 24:15)
- But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. (Luke 24:16)
- He said to them; What are these matters that you are debating between yourselves as you walk along? And they stood still with sad faces. (Luke 24:17)
- In answer the one named Cleopas said to him; Are you dwelling as an alien by yourself in Jerusalem and so do not know the things that have occurred in her in these days? (Luke 24:18)
- And he said to them, What things? They said to him; The things concerning Jesus the Nazarene, who became a prophet powerful in work and word before God and all the people. (Luke 24:19)
- And how our chief priests and rulers handed him over to the sentence of death and impaled him. (Luke 24:20)
- But we were hoping that this man was the one destined to deliver Israel, yes, and besides all these things, this makes the third day since these things occurred. (Luke 24:21)
- Moreover, certain women from among us also astonished us, because they had been early to the memorial tomb. (Luke 24:22)
- But did not find his body and they came saying they had also seen a supernatural sight of angels, who said he is alive. (Luke 24:23)
- Further, some of those with us went off to the memorial tomb,

- and they found it so, just as the women had said; But they did not see him. (Luke 24:24)
- So he said to them; O senseless one's and slow in heart to believe on all the things the prophets spoke! (Luke 24:25)
- Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into his glory? (Luke 24:26)
- And commencing at Moses and all the Prophets he interpreted to them things pertaining to himself in all the Scriptures. (Luke 24:27)
- Finally they got close to the village where they were journeying, and he made as if he was journeying on farther. (Luke 24:28)
- But they used pressure upon him, saying; Stay with us, because it is toward evening and the day has already declined. With that he went in to stay with them. (Luke 24:29)
- And as he was reclining with them at the meal he took the loaf, blessed it, broke it and began to hand it to them. (Luke 24:30)
- At that their eyes were fully opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from them. (Luke 24:31)
- And they said to each other; Were not our hearts burning as he was speaking to us on the road, as he was fully opening up the Scriptures to us? (Luke 24:32)
- And in that very hour they rose and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and those with them assembled together. (Luke 24:33)
- Saying; For a fact the Lord was raised up and he appeared to Simon! (Luke 24:34)
- Now they themselves related the events on the road and how he became known to them by the breaking of the loaf. (Luke 24:35)
- While they were speaking of these things he himself stood in their midst and said to them; May you have peace. (Luke 24:36)
- But because they were terrified, and had become frightened,

- they were imagining they beheld a spirit. (Luke 24:37)
- So he said to them; Why are you troubled, and why is it doubts come up in your hearts? (Luke 24:38)
- See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Feel me and see, because a spirit does not have flesh and bones just as you behold that I have. (Luke 24:39)
- And as he said this he showed them his hands and his feet. (Luke 24:40)
- But while they were still not believing for sheer joy and were wondering, he said to them; Do you have something there to eat? (Luke 24:41)
- And they handed him a piece of broiled fish. (Luke 24:42)
- And he took it and ate it before their eyes. (Luke 24:43)
- He now said to them. These are my words which I spoke to you while I was yet with you, that all the things written in the Law of Moses and in the Prophets and Psalms about me must be fulfilled. (Luke 24:44)
- Then he opened up their minds fully to grasp the meaning of the Scriptures. (Luke 24:45)
- And he said to them; In this way it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from among the dead on the third day. (Luke 24:46)
- And on the basis of his name repentance for forgiveness of sins would be preached in all the nations, starting out from Jerusalem. (Luke 24:47)
- You are to be witnesses of these things. (Luke 24:48)
- And, look! I am sending forth upon you that which is promised by my Father. You, though, abide in the city until you become clothed with power from on high. (Luke 24:49)
- As occurring on Jesus resurrection day and the ascension of Jesus as described in verse 51 of that chapter. It may also be noted

that the words and began to be borne up to heaven, appearing in that verse, are lacking in some ancient manuscripts and are therefore omitted in some modern translations, NE, AT. They do appear, however, in the Bodmer Papyrus (P<sup>75</sup>), the Alexandrine Manuscript, the Vatican Manuscript No. 1209, and other ancient manuscripts.

## ... Effect On Disciples

- Up until the day of Jesus ascension it appears that the disciples still thought in terms of an earthly kingdom ruled by him, as is seen by their statement at;
- When, now, they had assembled, they went asking him; Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time? (Acts of Apostles 1:6)
- By beginning his ascension in a visible way and allowing his disciples to witness the initial portion of it, Jesus thus made obvious to them that his Kingdom was heavenly and that, different from David who did not ascend to the heavens, Jesus position from then onward would be at God's right hand, as Peter boldly testified on the day of Pentecost.
- This Jesus God resurrected, of which fact we are all witnesses. (Acts of Apostles 2:32)
- Therefore because he was exalted to the right hand of God and received the promised Holy Spirit from the Father, he has poured out this which you see and hear. (Acts of Apostles 2:33)
- Actually David did not ascend to the heavens, but he himself says, Yehowah said to my Lord; Sit at my right hand. (Acts of Apostles 2:34)
- Until I place your enemies as a stool for your feet. (Acts of Apostles 2:35)
- Therefore let all the house of Israel know for a certainty that God made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you impaled. (Acts of Apostles 2:36)
- Such action likewise should call to their mind Jesus many previous statements pointing to such a heavenly position and help his disciples to understand these. He had shocked some by saying; What,

therefore, if you should behold the Son of man ascending to where he was before?

- What, therefore, if you should behold the Son of man ascending to where he was before? (John 6:62)
- And he told the Jews; You are from the realms below; I am from the realms above.
- So he went on to say to them; You are from the realms below. I am from the realms above. You are from this world. I am not from this world. (John 8:23)
- On the night of his final meeting with his apostles, he told them he was going his way to the Father to prepare a place for them
- In the house of my Father there are many abodes. Otherwise, I would have told you, because I am going my way to prepare a place for you. (John 14:2)
- You heard that I said to you, I am going away and I am coming back to you. If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going my way to the Father, because the Father is greater than I am. (John 14:28)
- While among them on his last night of life as a human, he reported to his Father that he had finished the work on earth assigned to him and prayed, saying; Glorify me alongside yourself with the glory that I had alongside you before the world was, saying also; I am coming to you.
- I have glorified you on the earth, having finished the work you have given me to do. (John 17:4)
- So now you, Father, glorify me alongside yourself with the glory that I had alongside you before the world was. (John 17:5)
- Also, I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world and I am coming to you. Holy Father, watch over them on account of your own name which you have given me, in order, that they may be one just as we are. (John 17:11)
- When arrested, he gave similar indication before the Sanhedrin.

- Jesus said to him; You yourself said it. Yet I say to you men, From henceforth you will see the Son of man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven. (Matthew 26:64)
- After his resurrection he told Mary Magdalene; Stop clinging to me. For I have not yet ascended to the Father. But be on your way to my brothers and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father and to my God and your God.
- Jesus said to her; Stop clinging to me. For I have not yet ascended to the Father. But be on your way to my brothers and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father and to my God and your God. (John 20:17)
- Yet, despite all of this, it is evident that the significance of these statements was brought home to the disciples only at the occasion of the ascension. Later, Stephen was given a vision of Jesus at God's right hand
- But he, being full of Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and caught sight of God's glory and of Jesus standing at God's right hand. (Acts of Apostles 7:55)
- And he said; Look! I behold the heavens opened up and the Son of man standing at God's right hand. (Acts of Apostles 7:56)
- And Paul experienced the effect of Jesus heavenly glory.
- Now as he was traveling he approached Damascus, when suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. (Acts of Apostles 9:3)
- And he fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him; Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? (Acts of Apostles 9:4)
- He said; Who are you, Lord? He said; I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. (Acts of Apostles 9:5)

### .. The Inauguration Of A New And Living Way

• While Jesus began his ascent in a physical form, thus being visible to his watching disciples, there is no basis for assuming that he continued to retain a material form after the cloud interposed itself.

# The apostle Peter states that Jesus died in the flesh but was resurrected in the spirit.

- Why, even Christ died once for all time concerning sins, a righteous person for unrighteous ones, that he might lead you to God, he being put to death in the flesh, but being made alive in the spirit. (1 Peter 3:18)
- Paul declares the rule that flesh and blood cannot inherit God's kingdom.
- However, this I say; Brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit God's kingdom, neither does corruption inherit incorruption. (1 Corinthians 15:50)
- Note also Jesus statement at;
- But Jesus answered them, saying, The hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified. (John 12:23)
- Most truly I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains just one grain. But if it dies, it then bears much fruit. (John 12:24)
- Nevertheless, someone will say; How are the dead to be raised up? Yes, with what sort of body are they coming? (1 Corinthians 15:35)
- You unreasonable person! What you sow is not made alive unless first it dies. (1 Corinthians 15:36)
- And as for what you sow, you sow, not the body that will develop, but a bare grain, it may be, of wheat or any one of the rest. (1 Corinthians 15:37)
- But God gives it a body just as it has pleased him, and to each of the seeds its own body. (1 Corinthians 15:38)
- Not all flesh is the same flesh, but there is one of mankind, and there is another flesh of cattle, and another flesh of birds, and another of fish. (1 Corinthians 15:39)
- And there are heavenly bodies, and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly bodies is one sort, and that of the earthly bodies

is a different sort. (1 Corinthians 15:40)

- The glory of the sun is one sort, and the glory of the moon is another, and the glory of the stars is another, in fact, star differs from star in glory. (1 Corinthians 15:41)
- So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption, it is raised up in incorruption. (1 Corinthians 15:42)
- It is sown in dishonor, it is raised up in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised up in power. (1 Corinthians 15:43)
- It is sown a physical body, it is raised up a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual one. (1 Corinthians 15:44)
- It is even so written; The first man Adam became a living soul. The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. (1 Corinthians 15:45)
- Paul likens Jesus ascent to God's presence in the heavens to the entry of the High Priest into the Most Holy compartment of the tabernacle on the Day of Atonement and specifies that on such occasion the High Priest carried only the blood, but not the flesh, of the sacrificial victims.
- But into the second compartment the High Priest alone enters once a year, not without blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of ignorance of the people. (Hebrews 9:7)
- However, when Christ came as a High Priest of the good things that have come to pass, through the greater and more perfect tent not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. (Hebrews 9:11)
- He entered, no, not with the blood of goats and of young bulls, but with his own blood, once for all time into the holy place and obtained an everlasting deliverance for us. (Hebrews 9:12)
- For Christ entered, not into a holy place made with hands, which is a copy of the reality, but into heaven itself, now to appear before the person of God for us. (Hebrews 9:24)
- Neither is it in order, that he should offer himself often, as indeed the High Priest enters into the holy place from year to year with

blood not his own. (Hebrews 9:25)

- Otherwise, he would have to suffer often from the founding of the world. But now he has manifested himself once for all time at the conclusion of the systems of things to put sin away through the sacrifice of himself. (Hebrews 9:26)
- Paul then compares the curtain, which separated the first compartment from the Most Holy compartment, to Christ's flesh. The High Priest in passing into the Most Holy, into God's typical presence, did not carry the curtain with him but passed through that barrier and beyond it, so that it was behind him. Thus, Paul states that we have boldness for the way of entry into the holy place by the blood of Jesus, which he inaugurated for us as a new and living way through the curtain, that is, his flesh.
- But behind the second curtain was the tent compartment called the Most Holy. (Hebrews 9:3)
- For Christ entered, not into a holy place made with hands, which is a copy of the reality, but into heaven itself, now to appear before the person of God for us. (Hebrews 9:24)
- By the said will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all time. (Hebrews 10:10)
- Therefore, brothers, since we have boldness for the way of entry into the holy place by the blood of Jesus. (Hebrews 10:19)
- Which he inaugurated for us as a new and living way through the curtain, that is, his flesh. (Hebrews 10:20)
- I am the living bread that came down from heaven, if anyone eats of this bread he will live forever, and, for a fact, the bread that I shall give is my flesh in behalf of the life of the world. (John 6:51)
- This hope we have as an anchor for the soul, both sure and firm, and it enters in within the curtain. (Hebrews 6:19)
- Where a forerunner has entered in our behalf, Jesus, who has become a High Priest according to the manner of Melchizedek forever. (Hebrews 6:20)

- Jesus ascension to heaven to present the ransoming value of his lifeblood to Yehowah inaugurated a new and living way of approach to God in prayer. That it also opened the way to heavenly life harmonizes with Jesus own statement to the effect that, prior thereto, no man has ascended into heaven but he that descended from heaven, the Son of man.
- Moreover, no man has ascended into heaven but he that descended from heaven, the Son of man. (John 3:13)
- Thus, neither Enoch nor Elijah inaugurated this way, any more than David had.
- And Enoch kept walking with the true God. Then he was no more, for God took him. (Genesis 5:24)
- And it came about that as they were walking along, speaking as they walked, why, look! A fiery war chariot and fiery horses, and they proceeded to make a separation between them both, and Elijah went ascending in the windstorm to the heavens. (2 Kings 2:11)
- Actually David did not ascend to the heavens, but he himself says, Yehowah said to my Lord; Sit at my right hand. (Acts of Apostles 2:34)
- As Paul states; The Holy Spirit makes it plain that the way into the holy place had not yet been made manifest while the first tent was standing.
- Thus the Holy Spirit makes it plain that the way into the holy place had not yet been made manifest while the first tent was standing. (Hebrews 9:8)

See Also ELIJAH See Also ENOCH 2

#### ·· Correctness Of The Term

Some raise objections to the account of the ascension, saying that it conveys the primitive concept that heaven is up from the earth, thus manifesting ignorance of the structure of the universe and of the earth's rotation. However, to satisfy such critics would, in effect,

require the virtual elimination of the words up, above, and so forth, from human language.

- Even in this space age, we still read of astronauts making an ascent to a 184-mile-high orbit above the earth [The New York Times, June 19,1983], whereas we know that technically they moved out or away from the earth's surface that distance. Interestingly, the account of the angelic delegation that chorused the announcement of Jesus birth reports that, when their mission was completed, the angels *departed* from them into heaven.
- So when the angels had departed from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another; Let us by all means go clear to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which Yehowah has made known to us. (Luke 2:15)
- Going through the first sentinel guard and the second they got to the iron gate leading into the city, and this opened to them of its own accord. And after they went out they advanced down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him. (Acts of Apostles 12:10)
- Thus Jesus ascension, while beginning with an upward movement, from the viewpoint of his disciples, may have thereafter taken any direction required to bring him into his Fathers heavenly presence. It was an ascension not only as to direction but, more important, as to the sphere of activity and level of existence in the spirit realm and in the lofty presence of the Most High God, a realm not governed by human dimensions or directions.
- You made him a little lower than angels, with glory and honor you crowned him, and appointed him over the works of your hands. (Hebrews 2:7)
- But we behold Jesus, who has been made a little lower than angels, crowned with glory and honor for having suffered death, that he by God's undeserved kindness might taste death for every man. (Hebrews 2:9)

### ·· Why Essential

Jesus ascension to the heavenly realm was essential for several reasons or purposes. He had stated that it was necessary for him to go

his way in order, that he might send God's Holy Spirit as helper to his disciples.

- Nevertheless, I am telling you the truth. It is for your benefit I am going away. For if I do not go away, the helper will by no means come to you, but if I do go my way, I will send him to you. (John 16:7)
- And when that one arrives he will give the world convincing evidence concerning sin and concerning righteousness and concerning judgment. (John 16:8)
- In the first place, concerning sin, because they are not exercising faith in me. (John 16:9)
- Then concerning righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will behold me no longer. (John 16:10)
- Then concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. (John 16:11)
- I have many things yet to say to you, but you are not able to bear them at present. (John 16:12)
- However, when that one arrives, the spirit of the truth, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak of his own impulse, but what things he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things coming. (John 16:13)
- That one will glorify me, because he will receive from what is mine and will declare it to you. (John 16:14)
- The outpouring of that spirit by Jesus on the day of Pentecost was to the disciples an evident demonstration of the fact of Jesus having reached God's presence, and that he had presented the value of his ransom sacrifice to Him.
- Therefore because he was exalted to the right hand of God and received the promised Holy Spirit from the Father, he has poured out this which you see and hear. (Acts of Apostles 2:33)
- Peter said to them; Repent, and let each one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the free gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts of Apostles 2:38)

- This presentation of the value of his lifeblood also made such ascension vital, for it was not to be made on earth, in the Most Holy of the temple in Jerusalem, but only in heaven itself, before the person of God.
- For Christ entered, not into a holy place made with hands, which is a copy of the reality, but into heaven itself, now to appear before the person of God for us. (Hebrews 9:24)
- It was also made necessary by Jesus being appointed and glorified as the great High Priest who has passed through the heavens.
- Seeing, therefore, that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold onto our confessing of him. (Hebrews 4:14)
- For every High Priest taken from among men is appointed in behalf of men over the things pertaining to God, that he may offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. (Hebrews 5:1)
- He is able to deal moderately with the ignorant and erring one's since he also is surrounded with his own weakness. (Hebrews 5:2)
- And on its account he is obliged to make offerings for sins as much for himself as for the people. (Hebrews 5:3)
- Also, a man takes this honor, not of his own accord, but only when he is called by God, just as Aaron also was. (Hebrews 5:4)
- So too the Christ did not glorify himself by becoming a High Priest, but was glorified by him who spoke with reference to him: You are my son. I, today, I have become your father. (Hebrews 5:5)
- Just as he says also in another place; You are a priest forever according to the manner of Melchizedek. (Hebrews 5:6)
- Paul explains that if, now, he were upon earth, he would not be a priest, but that, having sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, Jesus has now obtained a more excellent public service, so that he is also the mediator of a correspondingly better covenant.

- Now as to the things being discussed this is the main point; We have such a High Priest as this, and he has sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens. (Hebrews 8:1)
- A public servant of the holy place and of the true tent, which Yehowah put up, and not man. (Hebrews 8:2)
- For every High Priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices, wherefore it was necessary for this one also to have something to offer. (Hebrews 8:3)
- If, now, he were upon earth, he would not be a priest, there being men who offer the gifts according to the Law. (Hebrews 8:4)
- But which men are rendering sacred service in a typical representation and a shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses, when about to make the tent in completion, was given the divine command: For says he; See that you make all things after their pattern that was shown to you in the mountain. (Hebrews 8:5)
- But now Jesus has obtained a more excellent public service, so that he is also the mediator of a correspondingly better covenant, which has been legally established upon better promises. (Hebrews 8:6)
- Because of this, Christians subject to inherited sin are comforted in knowing they have a helper with the Father, Jesus Christ, a righteous one.
- My little children, I am writing you these things that you may not commit a sin. And yet, if anyone does commit a sin, we have a helper with the Father, Jesus Christ, a righteous one. (1 John 2:1)
- Who is he that will condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died, yes, rather the one who was raised up from the dead, who is on the right hand of God, who also pleads for us. (Romans 8:34)
- Consequently he is able also to save completely those who are approaching God through him, because he is always alive to plead for them. (Hebrews 7:25)

- Finally, the ascension was necessary for Jesus administration of the Kingdom to which he became heir, with angels and authorities and powers, made subject to him.
- He is at God's right hand, for he went his way to heaven, and angels and authorities and powers were made subject to him. (1 Peter 3:22)
- Who, although he was existing in God's form, gave no consideration to a seizure, namely, that he should be equal to God. (Philippians 2:6)
- No, but he emptied himself and took a slaves form and came to be in the likeness of men. (Philippians 2:7)
- More than that, when he found himself in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient as far as death, yes, death on a torture stake. (Philippians 2:8)
- For this very reason also God exalted him to a superior position and kindly gave him the name that is above every other name. (Philippians 2:9)
- So that in the name of Jesus every knee should bend of those in heaven and those on earth and those under the ground. (Philippians 2:10)
- And every tongue should openly acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:11)
- For he must rule as king until God has put all enemies under his feet (1 Corinthians 15:25)
- But this man offered one sacrifice for sins perpetually and sat down at the right hand of God. (Hebrews 10:12)
- From then on awaiting until his enemies should be placed as a stool for his feet. (Hebrews 10:13)
- And to him there were given rulership and dignity and kingdom, that the peoples, national groups and languages should all serve even him. His rulership is an indefinitely lasting rulership that will not pass away, and his kingdom one that will not be brought

to ruin. (Daniel 7:14)

- Having conquered the world,
- I have said these things to you that by means of me you may have peace. In the world you are having tribulation, but take courage! I have conquered the world. (John 16:33)
- Jesus took part in fulfilling the prophecy at;
- You have ascended on high. You have carried away captives. You have taken gifts in the form of men, yes, even the stubborn ones, to reside among them, O Yah God. (Psalms 68:18)
- Ascending on high and carrying away captives, the significance of which Paul explains at;
- Wherefore he says; When he ascended on high he carried away captives, he gave gifts in men. (Ephesians 4:8)
- Now the expression he ascended, what does it mean but that he also descended into the lower regions, that is, the earth? (Ephesians 4:9)
- The very one that descended is also the one that ascended far above all the heavens, that he might give fullness to all things. (Ephesians 4:10)
- And he gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelizers, some as shepherds and teachers. (Ephesians 4:11)
- With a view to the readjustment of the holy ones, for ministerial work, for the building up of the body of the Christ. (Ephesians 4:12)