

# The Incomparable Christ

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### Chapter 34 -- The Ascension of Christ

On what two occasions did Jesus prophesy of His ascension?

JOHN 6.62 / JOHN 7.33 [¶ CONTINUING FROM P. 331-332]

What Old Testament passage foretells of the ascension, and who applied it to Christ?

PSALM 68.18 / PAUL IN EPHESIANS 4.8 [P. 332, 1<sup>ST</sup> PARTIAL ¶, LAST SENTENCE]

“When He ascended, not a \_\_\_\_\_ of God on mankind was left \_\_\_\_\_, and not a \_\_\_\_\_ left in \_\_\_\_\_.”

CLAIM / UNSETTLED / PROMISE / UNCERTAINTY [P. 332, 2<sup>ND</sup> FULL ¶, 3<sup>RD</sup> SENTENCE]

What makes the particular manner of Christ's ascension so important?

HE DID NOT SIMPLY VANISH BECAUSE THAT WOULD LEAVE UNCERTAINTY IN THE DISCIPLES' MINDS; IT WAS A SYMBOLIC AND UNDERSTANDABLE ACT. [P. 333, 1<sup>ST</sup> FULL ¶]

Explain the reasons for the post-resurrection appearances in comparison with the ascension.

POST RESURRECTION APPEARANCES WERE TO ASSURE THE DISCIPLES THAT CHRIST HAD CONQUERED DEATH; THE ASCENSION WAS TO CONVINCE THEM THAT HE WOULD APPEAR AGAIN. [P. 333, LAST PARTIAL ¶]

What were the reasons for the necessity of Christ's ascension?

- THE NATURE OF CHRIST RESURRECTION BODY. [P. 334]
- THE UNIQUE PERSONALITY AND HOLY LIFE DEMANDED AN EXIT AS UNIQUE AS HIS ENTRANCE INTO IT. [P. 334]

- HIS REDEMPTIVE WORK REQUIRED SUCH A CONSUMMATION. [P. 334]
- THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS DEPENDENT ON HIS GLORIFICATION. [P. 335]
- IT GAVE A SATISFACTORY ACCOUNT OF CHRIST'S DISAPPEARANCE FROM THE TOMB. [P. 335]

“The ascension was a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ demonstration that His \_\_\_\_\_ had forever solved the \_\_\_\_\_ created by man's sin and rebellion.”

COMPLETE / FINAL / ATONEMENT / PROBLEM. [SENTENCE CONTINUING FROM P. 334-335]

What other reasons made the ascension important to Christ?

- IT WAS A DIVINE VINDICATION OF HIS CLAIMS TO DEITY [P. 336]
- IT WAS HIS DIVINE INAUGURATION INTO HIS PRIESTHOOD [P. 336]

“There is no sphere, however \_\_\_\_\_, in which Christ has no \_\_\_\_\_ -- and no sphere in which His \_\_\_\_\_ are absolved from \_\_\_\_\_ to Him.”

SECULAR / RIGHTS / SERVANTS / OBEDIENCE. [P. 336, 1<sup>ST</sup> PARTIAL ¶, LAST SENTENCE]

What makes the ascension so important to the believer?

- CHRIST IS ALWAYS NEAR. [P. 336]
- HIS LIFE IS THE GUARANTEE OF OURS [P. 336]
- IT ASSURES US THAT HE IS ANTICIPATING AND PREPARING FOR US TO BE WITH HIM. [P. 336]

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consonant -- consistent

consummation -- completion

historicity -- actual historical event

intelligible -- understandable

intimations -- clues, hints

metaphorical -- symbolic

periphery -- outer edge, in other words to be unimportant