

I'll Be Back

Acts 1:9-15

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01/12/25

I. Mission complete. Acts 1:9-11

The LORD blessed the Children of Israel with the _____ of His Shekinah Glory hovering over the Ark of the Covenant in the "Holy of Holies" of the Tabernacle.

- Jesus left _____ and He **will come back** physically.
- Jesus left _____ and He **will come back** visibly.
- Jesus left from the Mount of _____ and He **will come back** to the Mount of Olives.
- Jesus left while blessing His _____ and He **will come back** blessing His followers.

The Ascension of Jesus Christ is of utmost importance to the Christian faith because it proves Jesus' supreme _____ over His Church and creation.

II. The obedience of Jesus' followers. Acts 1:12-15

As the followers of Christ entered the upper room, they had _____ amongst themselves as they continued with **one accord**.

- **Supplication** carries the idea of meeting the needs of each other, and some believe the way **supplication** is used here shows a sense of _____ and earnestness in prayer.

John 7:5 For even His _____ did not believe in Him. NKJV

III. Conclusion.

1. If Jesus did not return to the Father, then He was not telling the _____ when He spoke with His Disciples before His crucifixion.

The mathematician Peter Stoner said the odds of anyone in history fulfilling just eight of the over 300 prophecies about Messiah is greater than **1 in 100 _____!**

2. The Ascension of Christ revealed His _____, and He promised the coming Holy Spirit's power to His followers.
3. The Ascension of Christ proves Jesus will be _____ us until the end of the age. **Matthew 28:18-20**

The truth of the Ascension should bring joy to our hearts and remind us of Jesus' power, promise, purpose, and His _____.

The LORD gave gifted leaders to His Church so the saints would not fall for false doctrine, and the leaders would equip the saints to _____ the work of the ministry. **Ephesians 4:11-16**

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

1. Read **Acts 1:9-11** and **Luke 24:50-52**. What happened as Jesus was blessing his followers? What was His followers' response to what had taken place? What would have been your reaction?
2. Discuss the four points in section I. of the sermon note sheet regarding how Jesus left and will return. **Zechariah 14:4, Matthew 24:27, Matthew 28:5-7, Luke 22:39-44, John 1:16, John 20:25-28, James 1:17**
3. Why is the Ascension of Christ so important to the Christian faith? **John 16:27-28, Romans 6:5, 1 Corinthians 15:12-19**
4. Read **Acts 1:12-15**. What did the 120 followers of Jesus do after the two men spoke to them? What examples can we learn from these verses? Why do you think Jesus' brothers did not believe in Him until the resurrection? **Psalms 133:1, Luke 2:42-47, John 7:5, 1 Corinthians 1:10, Philippians 4:6-7, James 2:1, 1 John 5:14**
5. Read **Ephesians 4:7-10**. What's the connection in this passage between unity and a diversity of gifts? Paul says God gives leaders (apostles, prophets, etc.) to equip other believers to do works of service so that the whole body becomes united and mature. Are you equipped for works of service? If so, what services are you doing? If not, what equipping do you need? What happens to the body of Christ if the leaders do all the works of service? (Wiersbe)
6. Read **Matthew 28:18-20** and discuss the conclusion of the sermon.