

WHAT the BIBLE TEACHES about GOD and JESUS CHRIST

Lesson 8 - Part 1

THE ASCENSION AND EXALTATION OF JESUS CHRIST

How Jesus Christ ascended to heaven

1. What are the results of the resurrection of Jesus Christ?

- It proves that Jesus Christ is
- It proves that God accepted the _____ for sin.
- It proves that the Scriptures are
- Jesus Christ was made a _____ forever.
- His

2. The results of the resurrection of Jesus Christ are:

- It proves that Jesus Christ is God.
- It proves that God accepted Jesus' sacrifice for sin.
- It proves that the Word of God is inspired.
- It makes Jesus Christ our great High Priest.
- His work now and in the future were made possible.

After the resurrection, Jesus Christ spent 40 days in this world. Then He went back to heaven.

In this lesson we want to learn that:

- before Jesus died, He said He was going to heaven
- as Jesus went to heaven
 - He went slowly
 - He went bodily
 - a cloud took Him up
- Paul and Stephen saw Jesus in heaven

How long did Jesus Christ stay in this world in His resurrection body?

3. Jesus stayed 40 days in this world in His resurrection body. Jesus knew that He would ascend to heaven. What does it mean “to ascend?” When a plane takes off and goes into the sky, it ascends. When a bird leaves its perch on a tree and flies into the sky, it ascends. To “ascend” means to “go up.”

What does it mean when we say, “Jesus ascended to heaven?”

4. Jesus ascended or went up to heaven. Jesus knew about this before He died. He told the disciples about it.

John 6:62

What if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before!

John 14:28

You heard me say, “I am going away and I am coming back to you.” If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.



What did Jesus say He would do?

5. Jesus said that He would ascend to where He was before. He would go to His Father.

John 16:7

But I (Jesus) tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

Who would ascend or go away?

6. Jesus said He would go away.

John 3:13

No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven - the Son of Man.

Who would ascend?

7. The Son of Man would ascend or go to heaven. After the resurrection, Jesus talked more about ascending or going up to heaven.

John 20:17

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Where would Jesus go?

8. Jesus would ascend or go to His Father.

Read Acts 1:1-11 several times. These verses tell us how Jesus ascended into heaven.

Luke 24:50,51

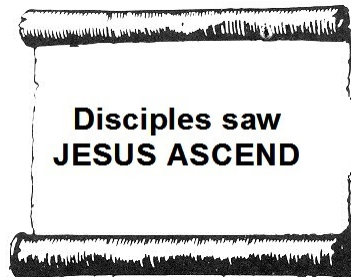
When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven.

Where did Jesus take His disciples?

9. Jesus took His disciples to Bethany. Jesus was not alone when He went up to heaven. His disciples were with Him and saw all that happened.

Acts 1:9,10

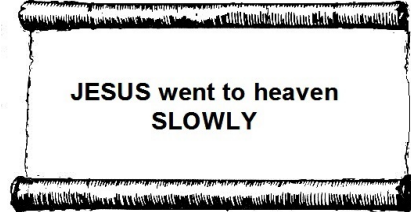
After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them.



Who saw Jesus go up?

10. The disciples **saw** Jesus go up to heaven. They knew for sure He was going up. They all saw it happen.

Sometimes when Jesus visited the disciples, He was gone just as quickly as He came. This time He went **slowly** so that they all saw it happen.

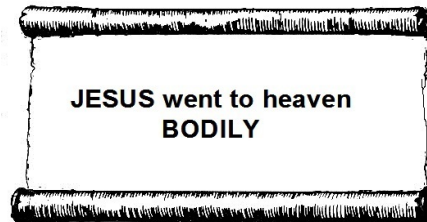


How did the disciples know Jesus had gone to heaven?

11. The disciples saw Jesus go to heaven. He went up slowly so that they could see Him go.

Read again verse 9 and 10.

Jesus went to heaven **bodily**. The disciples saw Him go. If only His spirit had gone up, they would not have seen Him go. Jesus went bodily.



How did Jesus go to heaven?

-
-
-

12. When Jesus went to heaven, He was seen, He went slowly, and He went bodily.

Acts 1:9

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud



hid him from their sight.

What took Jesus out of their sight?

13. A cloud took Jesus out of their sight. While they watched, two men came and talked to the disciples. They said Jesus would come back again the way they saw Him go up.

Jesus passed through the heavens. When we talk about the heavens, we think of the heavens where the sun, the moon, and the stars are. Jesus did not stay in these heavens. He went higher. He went to the heaven where God is.

Ephesians 4:10

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

Hebrews 4:14

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

Hebrews 4:14 (KJV)

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

Where did Jesus go?

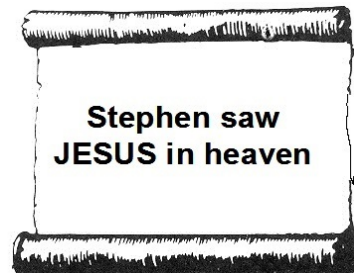
14. Jesus went to heaven.

Hebrews 8:1

The point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven.

Jesus could be seen going to heaven. He went slowly. He went bodily, and a cloud took Him up. This all happened the way Jesus said it would happen.

Stephen spoke much about Jesus Christ, His death, and His resurrection. Some of the



religious leaders were very angry at him and threw stones at him till he died. We find this story in Acts 6:8 to 7:60.

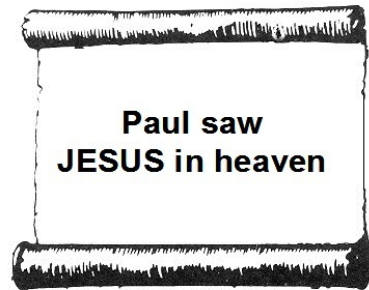
Acts 7:55

But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

Whom did Stephen see in heaven?

15. Stephen saw Jesus at the right hand of God in heaven.

When Paul was on his way to Damascus, a bright light came and he fell down.



Acts 22:7,8

I fell to the ground and heard a voice say to me, "Saul! Saul! Why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" I asked. "I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting," he replied.

1 Corinthians 15:8

And last of all he appeared to me (Paul) also, as to one abnormally born.

Who spoke to Paul from heaven?

16. Jesus spoke to Paul from heaven.

Before Jesus died, who said He would ascend to heaven?

How did Jesus go to heaven?

-
-
-
-

Who saw Jesus in heaven?

● _____ and _____

17. **Memorize** Philippians 2:9.

Philippians 2:9

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name.

WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT GOD AND JESUS CHRIST by Helen Pope.
Copyright, 1989 by Northern Canada Evangelical Mission, Inc., Box 3030, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Canada, S6V 7V4. Revised 2013. All scripture quotations in this publication are from the Holy Bible, New International Version. Copyright (c) 1973, 1978, International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Bible Publishers.