

## The Ascension of Our Lord

Acts 1:4-14

### Main Themes:

1. God the Father exalted Jesus in the ascension because Jesus faithfully suffered and died for our sins out of love for His Father and us.
2. The Holy Spirit, called “the Promise of the Father,” was given to the Apostles, so that they might faithfully bear witness to Jesus in their preaching and in the Apostolic Scriptures of the New Testament.
3. Jesus is still present with His Church wherever His Gospel is preached and His sacraments are administered.

### Questions:

1. Why did Jesus assemble the Apostles together? To command them to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit, so that they could faithfully bear witness to Jesus’ death and resurrection for the salvation of the world.
2. What did God promise them in the water of their Baptism? The gift of the Holy Spirit.
3. What were the apostles told to do in Jerusalem? To wait for the Holy Spirit to come upon them so that they could be His faithful witnesses.
4. What did the apostles want to know? When Jesus would restore the kingdom to Israel.
5. What kind of kingdom were the apostles thinking of? An earthly kingdom.
6. How does Jesus answer them? The Father alone would know “times and seasons” for establishing His kingdom.
7. What kingdom is Jesus speaking of? The Kingdom of God, or the Church.
8. How does God’s kingdom come? See the Catechism under the Second Petition of the Lord’s Prayer: “When our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.”
9. What were the apostles told to do after the Holy Spirit would come upon them? Be witnesses to Jesus in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the end of the earth.
10. How do the apostles continue to bear witness to Jesus today? Through the apostolic Scriptures of the New Testament that is preached and taught in the Church throughout the world.
11. What happened to Jesus after He had spoken to the apostles? He was taken up into heaven and a cloud received Him out of their sight.
12. What does the cloud remind us from the Old Testament? The glory cloud that hovered over the tabernacle and that led the children of Israel through the wilderness to the Promised Land.
13. Who were the two men that appeared to the apostles in white apparel? Angels, who were messengers reflecting the glory of the resurrected and ascended Lord.
14. What was the message of the angels? Jesus will come again in glory, even as He ascended into heaven in glory.
15. Did Jesus leave us when He ascended into heaven? No. He is with us always, “even to the end of the age,” as He promised (See Matthew 28:20).
16. How does Jesus continue to be present among us? By His Holy Spirit through the preaching of the Gospel and the celebration of the Sacraments.

Prayer: O Lord Jesus, You are the King of kings and the Lord of lords because You defeated sin, death, and the power of the devil and are now seated in glory at God the Father’s right hand. Send us Your Holy Spirit, as You have promised that, through the preaching of the Holy Gospel and the gift of the Blessed Sacraments, You might abide with us and we with You until You come again in glory; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.