The Ascension of Christ

### Acts 1:9-11

### Jesus and the eleven apostles

### Who

### The gathering was that of the 11 apostles. At other times He appeared to others too (1 Cor. 15:6) here Luke is referring only to the remaining eleven apostles.

### Luke now consistently refers to them as “apostles.” The term “disciple” is now used for new believers in Acts.

### Where

### The Book of Acts does not mention specifically mention the place where the ascension took place.

### Luke 24: as far as Bethany (This Bethany is the Bethany in Mount Olives (Mark 11:1), and not the town of Bethany.

### The Ascension of Jesus

### The ascension was the act of the Father just the resurrection was. Gal. 1:1; Eph. 1:17, 20)

### What do we think of the cloud?

### Cloud in the Old Testament often symbolized God’s glory.

### God told Moses that He was coming to Him in a cloud in Mount Sinai. Ex 19:9

### Cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. Ex 40:34

### Cloud filled the house of the Lord, 1 Kings 8:10

### The cloud at the Transfiguration Lk 9:34-35

### Son of Man will come in a cloud with power and great glory Lk 21:27

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### Thus a message of angels is added to the commission of Jesus to move the Galileans to their first step in their new mission. The eleven returned to Jerusalem.

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### The Transformation

### They returned to Jerusalem with great joy. Lk 24:52

### The most difficult good-byes are those that are final in this life, then why did the apostles respond like this? They who until recently had been so afraid. Lk 24:20-21; John 20:19, 24

### Possible reasons:

### The apostles got a new understanding of Scripture Luke 24:44-46

### They were eye witnesses to the ascension

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Resurrection: The apostles did not see it but they saw the result (the Risen Lord, the empty tomb etc.)  | Versus | Ascension: The apostles saw it but they did not see the result (Jesus Christ seated at the right hand of God) |

### The Ascension and us

### We have an advocate in Jesus. Rom 8:34 1 John 2:1 / He is our high priest. Heb 7:25 -28 / He is seated at the right hand of God Eph. 1:20-23 / Our sins have been fully paid for by Jesus. John 6:62, Heb. 10:12 / He will come back in the same way as the apostles saw Him go into heaven. While only the eleven apostles saw Him go when He comes every eye will see Him.

### Does the fact that Jesus is at the right hand of the Father give you the strength to endure when you face opposition, and hardship?

### Does the fact that you have an advocate in Jesus give you the assurance that He intercedes for you when you pray to the Father?

### Does the fact that you have a high priest in heaven who sympathizes with your weaknesses (Heb 4:15) comfort you when you face temptations and trials?

### Does the fact that Jesus has fully paid for your sins comfort you when you suffer a lack of assurance and feel depressed?

### Does the fact that Jesus will come again as righteous Judge lead you in a path of holiness and preparedness?