**The Ascension of Jesus**

Aaron’s recent sermon on the importance of the Resurrection of Jesus, reminded me of a study I have never heard a sermon on. For many reasons, the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead is a very significant event. I would like to focus this morning on another significant and wonderful event that sometimes gets overlooked. The Ascension of Jesus Christ to Heaven!

**New Testament References to the Ascension**

* Jesus referred to this event in the book of John (**John 6:60-66,16:10-16, 17:5, 20:17**)
* The Ascension event recorded (**Mark 16:19-20, Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:9-12**)
* Other New Testament references to the Ascension (**Acts 2:30-35, Ephesians 4:8-10, 1 Timothy 3:16, and Hebrews 10:11-14**)
* Stephen saw the ascended Savior (**Acts 7:56**)
* Paul saw the ascended Savior [**Acts 22:12-22 (verse 18), 26:16]**

**What Did The Ascension of Jesus Cause?**

* Great joy
* A desire for the Holy Spirit
* Worship of God
* Diligence and comfort in sacrificing for Jesus
* A zeal to spread God’s Word, the Gospel of Jesus Christ
* Hope to all Christians that one day they can be resurrected and ascend to Heaven to be with God forever

Now we can enjoy the comfort of knowing that the ascended King Jesus is on the throne of David at the right hand of God; interceding, mediating, and serving as our great High Priest (**Hebrews 2:17-18, 4:14-16, Romans 8:34, Hebrews 12:1-2, 24, and 1 Timothy 2:5**).

What a great blessing we have brethren! At any time and in any place we can approach God in prayer through our Great High Priest who has ascended to His throne in Heaven!

***Does the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ motivate you like it did the early Christians?*** It should motivate us even more as we can see the entire plan of God that He designed for us! ***Do you live each day for the one who was crucified, resurrected from the dead, and ascended to Heaven for you?***

Let us give our lives in serving the ascended Savior so that we can someday be with Him forever in Heaven (**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**)!

If you are not a Christian this morning, we encourage you to follow the example of the apostle Paul (**Acts 22:16**). If we can help you now, please come forward as we stand and sing!