**The Ascension of Jesus**

We are members of the Oak Ridge church of Christ. We call ourselves Christians ([**Acts 11:26**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Acts%2011:26)) and we hold to the Bible as our one and only Truth. Church of Christ is a biblical description of Christians who work together for the cause of Christ ([**Ro. 16:16**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Romans%2016:16)). We are independent assemblies with no organization beyond our own number as described in [**Phil. 1:1**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Philippians%201:1). There are Christians across the world working with local congregations of God’s people such as described in [**Rev. 2**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Revelation%202)**-3**. Christians are members of Christ’s body, which is also known as His Church ([**Acts 2:47**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Acts%202:47)**,**[**Eph. 5:23**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Ephesians%205:23)). Our mission is to stand for God’s truth (the gospel) and teach it to all people ([**Matt. 28:18-20**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Matthew%2028:18-20)**,**[**Romans 1:16**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Romans%201:16)**,**[**1 Tim. 3:15**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=1%20Timothy%203:15)). We are accountable to our one and only Head Jesus Christ ([**Eph. 1:22-23**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Ephesians%201:22-23)**,**[**Col. 1:18**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Colossians%201:18)).

The Resurrection of Jesus from the dead is a very significant event. Most people who call themselves Christians would agree that Jesus rising from the dead changed the hopes of all mankind! Now the hope is to be able to overcome sin and death to be resurrected and live forever in Heaven with Jesus. Tonight we would like to focus on another significant and wonderful event that sometimes gets overlooked. The Ascension of Jesus to Heaven!

**New Testament References to the Ascension**

* Jesus referred to this event in the book of John (**John 16:10-16, 17:5, 20:17**)
* The Ascension event recorded (**Mark 16:19-20, Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:9-12**)
* Other references to the Ascension (**Acts 2:30-35, Ephesians 4:8-10, 1 Timothy 3:16, and Heb. 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 the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and a 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, 1 Timothy 2:5, and Hebrews 12:1-2, 24**).

What a great blessing Christians enjoy! At any time and in any place Christians 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 for you, resurrected from the dead for you, and ascended to Heaven for you?***

We encourage all of our viewers to give your lives in serving the ascended Savior so that you can someday be with Him forever in Heaven (**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**)! If you are not a Christian tonight, we encourage you to follow the example of the apostle Paul in **Acts 22:16**. Believe the gospel of Jesus, confess Jesus is the Son of God, repent of your sins, and be baptized to wash them all away. That is what Paul did and what all must do to become a disciple of Jesus Christ and have the hope of ascending to Heaven!

We invite all in our audience to our Bible studies on Wednesday at 7pm and Sunday morning at 9am. We would love to study God’s together with you!

Please check the scriptures we have covered tonight. We want to help you in any way we can. Contact us for Bible studies by telephone, e-mail, or simply come to one of our assemblies. Contact: We assemble at 225 North Purdue Ave. in Oak Ridge at 9am on Sundays and 7pm on Wednesdays; **oakridgechurch.com**; david.barry@oakridgechurch.com, murray.wade@oakridgechurch.com; (865) 693-1416.

We plan to have a re-airing of this program on Monday, September 19, 2022 and our next live program is planned for October 3, 2022 when we hope to study, **"The Lessons from Malachi”.** We hope to see you next time on **"Speaking The Truth In Love".**