

Life in Jesus Sermon Series

The Acts of the Apostles

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Acts 1:1-11

The Ascension of Jesus

Outline

Acts was written for skeptical people...people like us, who found it difficult to believe Jesus was resurrected. These first verses tell us all that:

The Truth is “Out there”! (The resurrection happened...Jesus lives)

- Jesus was not resuscitated...he was resurrected
- The Jews didn't believe anyone would be raised after death to walk around with them in the here and now.
- Jesus presented himself to the apostles...**giving many convincing proofs** that he was alive.
 - He appeared over 40 days to them and many others
 - He ate with them
 - He commanded that they wait for the gift God promised...the Holy Spirit
- Are you convinced Jesus is resurrected...that the resurrection is true?

Jesus is “Up There” (He has ascended!)

The ascension means everything to our faith...it gives us:

- Relational Intimacy
 - Let go...I can't be everywhere now...ascended I will return to your heart.
- Historic Strategy
 - Jesus now rules everything...even evil.

All things work together for good

God is defeating Satan...using evil to defeat itself.

- Transforming Advocacy
Hebrews 7...Jesus lives to intercede for us

We are desperate to hear “well done” as we go through life. We feel like we live in a courtroom and will be judged. Inside, we know we are imposters.

Jesus intercedes by saying...Father, I already paid the debt. It would be unjust of you to take two payments for this sin...you must declare him “not guilty”.

The truth is “In Here”! (When I believe in the Ascended Jesus... the Holy Spirit is sent to reside in my life)

- Think of Jesus as the ASCENDED JESUS...all love, light and beauty AND lightning and fire and power.