



“He Ascended into Heaven, and Sits at the Right Hand of God the Father Almighty”

**14 Reasons Creeds Are Important: (9) Christians value _____ first and
_____ second.**

“Most evangelicals, for example, will typically use Bible translations ... And we can take this reflection a step further. All Protestant pastors, even the most fundamentalist, will, if they are remotely competent, prepare their sermons with the helps of lexicons, commentaries, and books of theology. As soon as they take down one of these books from their bookcases and start to read it, of course, they are drawing positively on church tradition.” (Carl Trueman, *Crisis of Confidence*)

“The fact that I shall here be rather severe does not mean that I esteem the ancient councils less than I ought. For I venerate them from my heart, and desire that they be honored by all. But here the norm is that nothing of course detract from Christ. Now it is Christ’s right to preside over all councils and to have no man share his dignity. But I say that he presides only when the whole assembly is governed by his word and Spirit.” (John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*)

What do we need to know about Christ's ascension?

- Christ ascended to heaven because his work on earth was _____ (Luke 19:10 ... John 19:30 ... Hebrews 10:11-12).
- Christ ascended to a place of _____, _____, and _____, which is exactly the kind of place Christ belongs (Hebrews 1:3).
 - The disciples saw Jesus taken _____ (Mark 16:19-20, Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:6-11).
 - Heaven is a _____ place (Luke 23:43, 2 Corinthians 5:6-8, 12:3, Philippians 1:23).
- Christ ascended to the right hand of God the Father Almighty, which is a place of _____ (Psalm 110:1).
 - Jesus has _____ authority in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18-20).
 - Jesus has authority over the spiritual forces of _____ (Ephesians 1:15-21, 6:12).
 - Jesus has authority over the _____ (Ephesians 1:22-23).
- After Christ ascended to heaven, he sent the _____.
 - Jesus promised to send another _____ (John 14:15-31, 16:1-15).
 - The Holy Spirit _____ the people of God for the _____ of the church of God (Ephesians 4:8-16).
- Having ascended to heaven, Jesus is now _____ for his people.
 - Jesus' intercession _____ our glorification (Romans 8:28-34 ... Ephesians 2:4-6, Colossians 3:3-4).
 - Jesus intercedes for us as a faithful and merciful _____ (Hebrews 2:14-18, 4:14-16, 7:23-25).

“The ascension of Christ provides an immovable foundation and security in our salvation. Jesus' ascension marks the seal of the Father's pleasure on his ministry. When the Father carried Jesus into heaven, he declared forever the efficacy of Christ's sacrifice. When the Father seated Jesus at his right hand, all things came under Jesus' subjection and rule. Nothing in all creation lives outside his reign. The ascension of Jesus, therefore, establishes assurance of salvation and the surety of the perseverance of the saints. Christians can rest in the knowledge of Christ's ascension because we know of the Savior's completed and continuing work and his eternal rule over the cosmos.” (Albert Mohler, *The Apostles' Creed*)

- The ascension of Jesus points us to the _____ of Jesus (John 14:1-3, Acts 1:8-9).