

“Promise, Mission, Ascension, Intercession, & Parousia!”

Matthew 28:17-20, Luke 24:46-53, & Acts 1:5-11 ^{1-3 & 5}

[Acts 7:1-60 (55-56), Romans 8:31-39 (34), Ephesians 1:15-23 (20), & Colossians 3:1-17 (1)] ⁴

Then Jesus said to them, *“Thus it is written, and therefore it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His Name to All Nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are Witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but wait in the city of Jerusalem until you are Endued With Power from on High.”*¹ (Luke 24:46-49) ... Then Jesus said, *“John Truly Baptized with Water, but You shall be Baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”*¹ Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, *“Lord, will You at this time Restore the Kingdom to Israel?”* Jesus replied, *“It is not for you to know the times or the seasons which the Father has put in His Own Authority. But you shall receive Power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;*¹ *and You shall be Witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth!”*² (Acts 1:5 ¹ & Acts 1:8a ¹ & Acts 1:8b ²) ... Then Jesus led them out as far as Bethany (Luke 24:50a) ... and His Disciples worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus again spoke to them, saying, *“All authority has been given to Me in Heaven and on Earth. Go therefore and make Disciples of All the Nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;*² *and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”* (Matthew 28:17b-20) ... After Jesus had spoken these things (Acts 1:9a) ... Jesus lifted up His hands and Blessed them. Now it came to pass, that while He Blessed them (Luke 24:50b) ... and as They watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight (Acts 1:9b-c)³ ... and He was parted from them and carried up into heaven (Luke 24:51)³ ... And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, Two Men stood by them in White Apparel, who said, *“Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into Heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into Heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into Heaven”* (Acts 1:10-11)⁵ ... And they worshiped Him again, and returned to Jerusalem with Great Joy, and were Continually in the Temple Praising & Blessing God. Amen!” Luke 24:52-53 (NKJV)

A Word About Notations In This Scripture

1st – This Is A Combined Scripture From Matthew, Luke, & Acts.

2nd – The Endnote Notations Make Reference To Five Different Interrelated Events In The Life of Jesus Christ & His People – The Church!

3rd – Finally, Other References To The Ongoing Work Of Jesus Christ In Heaven Today Making Constant Intercession For Us Here On Earth Are Added For Understanding!

We Will Deal With All Events In Chronological Order - Referenced By Endnotes Notation

1 Promise Of God Given – Coming Of The Holy Spirit Of God

2 Early Church’s Mission – Our Mission Today To Complete

3 Ascension Of God’s Son – Christ Returning To Heaven As Jesus Christ

4 Ongoing Intercession Ministry Of Jesus Christ – What Is Happening In Heaven Today

5 Parousia Of God’s - Son Second Coming Of Jesus Christ – The End Of The Age

1 Promise Of God Given – Coming Of The Holy Spirit Of God

Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but wait in the city of Jerusalem until you are Endued With Power from on High.” (Luke 24:46-49) ¹ ... Then Jesus said, “John Truly Baptized with Water, but You shall be Baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ¹ ... “But you shall receive Power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;” ¹ (Acts 1:5 ¹ & Acts 1:8a ¹)

Requirements To Receive The Promise Of God

- 1) To Be Obedient – Follow God’s Commands
- 2) To Have Patience – Wait On God’s Timing
- 3) To Desire Holiness - Faithful Loving Servant

The Promise Of God - Holy Spirit In All Of His Fullness
Is Essential To Life, Mission, & Eternity!

2 The Early Church’s Mission – Our Mission Today To Complete

You shall be Witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth!” (Acts 1:8) ² ... And Jesus again spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in Heaven and on Earth. Go therefore and make Disciples of All the Nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;” ² and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:17b-20) ...

Requirements To Carry Out The Mission Of God

- A) Baptism of Repentance & Forgiveness (Baptism of Water – Sacred Beginning)
- B) Holy Spirit’s Baptism of Holiness & Power (Baptism of Fire – Holy Transformation)

C) Faith To Stand For Jesus Christ & Truth

D) Boldness To Proclaim The Complete Good News

Faith, Boldness, & Understanding – Indwelling Unity With God’s Holy Spirit

Is Essential To Completing God’s Mission

The Complete Good News Proclaimed In Service!

The Complete Good News

- 1) Christ Has Come & Lived Perfectly Among Us
- 2) Christ Has Truly Died & Has Truly Risen From The Dead
- 3) Christ Has Ascended Into Heaven & Makes Constant Intercession For Us All
- 4) Christ Has Sent His Holy Spirit To Live Within Us & Guide Us Into All Truth
- 5) Christ Has Entrusted Us With Preaching Repentance & Forgiveness Of Sins In His Name
- 6) Christ Has Asked Us To Serve Others & Teach Them Everything He Taught Us!
- 7) Christ Shall Come Again To Judge The Living & The Dead
& Take Us To Heaven To Live With Him Forever

3 Ascension Of Jesus Christ – Christ Returning To Heaven As Jesus Christ

And as They watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight (Acts 1:9b-c) ³ ...
and He was parted from them and carried up into heaven (Luke 24:51) ³ ...

Requirements Before Ascension Of Jesus & Me

1) Perfect Obedience – Holiness Unto The Lord

2) Complete The Entire Mission – Good & Faithful Servant

Justification By Faith & Sanctification By Faith – Through The Holy Spirit

Is Essential In Running The Race Set Before Us Now

& Meeting Jesus Christ In The Air When He Comes for Us To Ascend Us To Glory!

4 The Ongoing Intercession Ministry Of Jesus Christ – What Is Happening In Heaven Today

What I Am Asked To Enter Into With Him!

[Acts 7:1-60 (55-56), Romans 8:31-39 (34), Ephesians 1:15-23 (20), & Colossians 3:1-17 (1)] ⁴

But Stephen, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into Heaven and saw the Glory of God, and Jesus Standing at the Right Hand of God, and said, *“Look! I see the Heavens opened and the Son of Man Standing at the Right Hand of God!”* Acts 7:55-56

“It is Christ Who Died, and Furthermore is Also Risen, Who is even now at the Right Hand of God, Who also Makes Intercession For Us!” Romans 8:34

*“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His Own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God Who Justifies. Who is He Who Condemns? **It is Christ Who died, and Furthermore is Also Risen, Who is even now at the Right Hand of God, Who also Makes Intercession For Us!** Who shall separate us from the Love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: ‘For your sake we are killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.’ Yet in all these things we are more than Conquerors through Him Who Loved Us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the Love of God Which is in Christ Jesus Our Lord!”* Romans 8:31-39 (34)

*“Therefore, I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory, may give to you the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation in the Knowledge of Him, the eyes of Your Understanding Being Enlightened; that you may know what is the Hope of His Calling, what are the Riches of the Glory of His Inheritance in the Saints, and what is the exceeding Greatness of His Power Toward Us Who Believe, according to the Working of His Mighty Power **Which He Worked in Christ when He Raised Him from the Dead and Seated Him at His Right Hand in the Heavenly Places**, far above All Principality and Power and Might and Dominion, and Every Name that is Named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put All Things Under His Feet and gave Him to be Head over All Things to the Church, which is His Body, the Fullness of Him Who Fills All in All!”* Ephesians 1:15-23 (20)

*“**If then You Were Raised with Christ, Seek Those Things Which are Above, Where Christ Is, Sitting at the Right Hand of God.** Set Your Mind on Things Above, Not on Things on the Earth. For You Died, and Your Life Is Hidden with Christ in God. When Christ Who is Our Life Appears, then You also Will Appear with Him in Glory. Therefore, Put to Death Your Members Which are on the Earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of These Things the Wrath of God Is Coming upon the Sons of Disobedience, in Which You Yourselves Once Walked when You Lived in Them. But Now You Yourselves are to Put Off All These: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, Since You Have Put Off the Old Man with His Deeds, and Have Put On the New Man Who Is Renewed in Knowledge According to the Image of Him Who Created Him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, scythian, slave nor free, but Christ Is All & In All! ...*

... Therefore, as the Elect of God, Holy and Beloved, Put On tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ Forgave You, so You Also Must Forgive. But Above All These Things Put On Love, which is the Bond of Perfection. And Let the Peace of God Rule in Your Hearts, to which also you were Called in One Body and Be Thankful. Let the Word of Christ Dwell in You Richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And Whatever You Do In Word Or Deed, Do All in the Name of the Lord Jesus, Giving Thanks to God the Father Through Him!" Colossians 3:1-17 (1)

Requirements Of Intercession & Presence

- 1) To Have The Mind & Love Of Christ
- 2) To Have The Longsuffering & Forgiveness Of Christ
- 3) To Be Willing To Enter Into The Ministry Of Suffering With Christ
- 4) To Be A Faithful & Obedient Servant Of Christ

In The Daily Presence Of God's Holy Spirit

- 1) Giving Praise & Worship To God From A Thankful Forgiven Heart
- 2) Receiving The Joy & Peace Of The Lord Each Day
- 3) Asking To Enter Into The Ministry Of Suffering With Christ

In The Daily Presence Of God's Holy Spirit

- 4) Asking In Prayer & Supplication For The Lost Souls Of The World
- 5) Asking To Serve & Pray Miracles Into Existence In His Name

Are All Essential In Order To Be A Living Presence Of Intercession For Others!

5 The Parousia: Second Coming Of Jesus Christ – At The End Of The Age

And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, Two Men stood by them in White Apparel, who said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into Heaven? *This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into Heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into Heaven*"

(Acts 1:10-11) ⁵

Requirements Before The Parousia

- 1) Repent & Receive Forgiveness Of Your Sins By The Sacrifice of Jesus Christ Your Lord!
- 2) Become A Believer By Faith & Obedient Holy Follower Of Jesus Christ Your Lord
- 3) Become A Holy Spirit Filled & Active Member Of Christ's Body The Church
- 4) Fulfill God's Mission For Your Life & His Will To Bring His Kingdom Come

Receive Through God's Holy Spirit Your Daily Essentials For These Last Days!

- 1) Joy & Thanksgiving, Praise & Worship
- 2) Food & Drink, Providence & Shelter,
- 3) Guidance & Understanding, Holiness & Unity
- 4) Longsuffering & Intercession, Presence & Unction

Receive Through God's Holy Spirit Your Daily Essentials For These Last Days!

- 5) Boldness & Faith, Prophecy & Proclamation
- 6) Humility & Service, Power & Healing
- 7) Forgiveness & Grace, Love & Peace

Q: "How Should We Then Live Today?"

A: Peter's Final Admonition To All True Believers!

*“Beloved, I (Peter) now write to you this Second Epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), that you may be Mindful of the Words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the Apostles of the Lord and Savior, knowing this first: that Scoffers will come in the Last Days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, ‘Where is the Promise of His Coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.’ For this they willfully forget that by the Word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the World that then Existed Perished, being Flooded with Water. But the heavens and the earth which are Now preserved by the Same Word, are Reserved for Fire until the Day of Judgment and Perdition of Ungodly Men. But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not Slack Concerning His Promise, as some count Slackness, but is Longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the Day of the Lord will come as a Thief in the Night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, **Q: ‘What manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?’** Nevertheless we, according to His Promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. **A1: “Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in Peace, Without Spot & Blameless; and Consider that the Longsuffering of our Lord is Salvation, as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures”** **A2: “You, Therefore, Beloved, since you know this beforehand, Beware lest you also Fall from Your Own Steadfastness, Being Led Away with the Error of the Wicked; but Rather Grow in the Grace & Knowledge of Our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the Glory Both Now & Forever! AMEN!”***

2nd Peter 3:1-18 (NKJV)

Please Rise & Bow Your Heads Now For Your Lord’s Blessing!

***“Now May The God & Father Of Our Lord Jesus Christ
By His Perfect Life & Sacrifice & Intercession,
Through His Holy Spirit Fill You Through & Through Daily,
Transforming You By The Renewing Of Your Heart & Mind,
That You Might Fulfill His Divine Mission For Your Life,
To Testify & Witness To His Great Love, Grace, & Mercy
By Proclaiming His Complete Good News To All The World,
That You Might By His Power & Might Flowing Through You,
Serve The Lost & Broken People That He Desires
Above All Things To Love Through You!”***

“Go Now To Love & Serve The Lord & One Another!”