

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (C)

LET US HOLD FAST THE CONFESSION OF OUR HOPE

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The Lord had told His disciples several times that He would go away but would come back. This was what the angels also told them when they were looking up. It was made clear to them that it was by His going away that would enable the Holy Spirit to come to help them and all disciples. If they remembered what He had told them that He was going to prepare a place for them and come back to take them, then the disappointment would not be great; (Jn.14:2-3).

The prayer of St. Paul reveals certain mysteries of our faith. He prayed for the believers in Ephesus for the spirit of wisdom and revelation to know God, and for enlightenment to know the hope to which Christians have been called, the glorious inheritance in store for them, and the power in those who believe. The power is like the one used to raise Jesus from the dead and lifted up to heaven. Many of us do not know about this hidden treasure.

Jesus will come a second time not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him. Who are those waiting for Him? And why are they waiting? Is it based on the knowledge of the rich inheritance in store for believers? Is it based on the hope that God has power to do everything?

Like the disciples, we may be disappointed when certain things happen to us in connection with our faith. It may be a disappointment in praying for something for a long time with no sign of getting it. It may be illness or troubles in the family. It may be a rejection of relatives and friends because of our faith in God and believe in Jesus Christ. It may be lack of progress in life despite the fact that the scriptures always tell us that God will bless the work of our hands. These may make us lose hope and weaken our faith.

The departure of Jesus is not abandonment, but to prepare a place for us. We are to wait in prayer with expectant faith and hope. We are to clean our hearts from evil conscience and wash our bodies with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. Jesus will never disappoint anyone who believes in Him and trust in His promises. Human beings may fail us, but God never fails. The resurrection and ascension of the Lord should encourage us to be committed Christians. This is because there is a sure proof that all that Christ told His disciples had been fulfilled, and that our toil will not be in vain. We are to support one another in prayer like the disciples, and pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

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The prayer of St. Paul reveals certain mysteries of our faith. He prayed for the believers in Ephesus for the spirit of wisdom and revelation to know God, and for enlightenment to know the hope to which Christians have been called, the glorious inheritance in store for them, and the power in those who believe. The power is like the one used to raise Jesus from the dead and lifted up to heaven. Many of us do not know about this hidden treasure.

Jesus will come a second time not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him. Who are those waiting for Him? And why are they waiting? Is it based on the knowledge of the rich inheritance in store for believers? Is it based on the hope that God has power to do everything?

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The prayer of St. Paul reveals certain mysteries of our faith. He prayed for the believers in Ephesus for the spirit of wisdom and revelation to know God, and for enlightenment to know the hope to which Christians have been called, the glorious inheritance in store for them, and the power in those who believe. The power is like the one used to raise Jesus from the dead and lifted up to heaven. Many of us do not know about this hidden treasure.

Jesus will come a second time not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him. Who are those waiting for Him? And why are they waiting? Is it based on the knowledge of the rich inheritance in store for believers? Is it based on the hope that God has power to do everything?

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The Lord had told His disciples several times that He would go away but would come back. This was what the angels also told them when they were looking up. It was made clear to them that it was by His going away that would enable the Holy Spirit to come to help them and all disciples. If they remembered what He had told them that He was going to prepare a place for them and come back to take them, then the disappointment would not be great; (Jn.14:2-3).

The prayer of St. Paul reveals certain mysteries of our faith. He prayed for the believers in Ephesus for the spirit of wisdom and revelation to know God, and for enlightenment to know the hope to which Christians have been called, the glorious inheritance in store for them, and the power in those who believe. The power is like the one used to raise Jesus from the dead and lifted up to heaven. Many of us do not know about this hidden treasure.

Jesus will come a second time not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him. Who are those waiting for Him? And why are they waiting? Is it based on the knowledge of the rich inheritance in store for believers? Is it based on the hope that God has power to do everything?

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The departure of Jesus is not abandonment, but to prepare a place for us. We are to wait in prayer with expectant faith and hope. We are to clean our hearts from evil conscience and wash our bodies with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. Jesus will never disappoint anyone who believes in Him and trust in His promises. Human beings may fail us, but God never fails. The resurrection and ascension of the Lord should encourage us to be committed Christians. This is because there is a sure proof that all that Christ told His disciples had been fulfilled, and that our toil will not be in vain. We are to support one another in prayer like the disciples, and pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

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