

Ascension: Jesus goes back to heaven

Reading: Acts 1:6-11

Then the apostles gathered around Jesus and asked him a question. "Lord," they said, "are you going to give the kingdom back to Israel now?"

He said to them, "You should not be concerned about times or dates. The Father has set them by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you. Then you will tell people about me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria. And you will even tell other people about me from one end of the earth to the other."

After Jesus said this, he was taken up to heaven. The apostles watched until a cloud hid him from their sight.

While he was going up, they kept on looking at the sky. Suddenly two men dressed in white clothing stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking at the sky? Jesus has been taken away from you into heaven. But he will come back in the same way you saw him go."

Thinking about the reading

Today we are thinking about the Ascension of Jesus, which is when Jesus went up, or ascended to

heaven. This took place after Jesus had died and risen from the dead. He had appeared to lots of his followers. His last message to them told them to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came. Then they were to go all over the world, telling people about Jesus.

Jesus went up to heaven, and now he rules as King forever.

When he had gone, his friends saw two angels dressed in white. The angels said that one day Jesus would return.

After Jesus went up to heaven, his friends waited and prayed for the Holy Spirit to come. We can do the same. Between Ascension (14th May) and Pentecost (May 24th) when we remember how the Holy Spirit came down, we can pray for our friends who do not yet know Jesus. We can pray for our world. We can pray for the Holy Spirit to come.

Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Amen.

Cambridge Causeway

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Bible Study notes

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