

MESSIANIC MILESTONES

THE ASCENSION OF THE MESSIAH

I. WHO WAS PRESENT FOR THE ASCENSION?

A. **Mark 16:14-19**

Eleven apostles were present.

B. **Acts 1:9-11**

Angels attended, as they had done at His birth (**Luke 2:15**), following His temptations (**Mark 1:13**), at His prayer of agony in the garden (**Luke 22:43**), and His resurrection (**John 20:12**).

II. HOW DID HE ASCEND?

A. **Luke 24:50-51**

He did so with upraised arms.

B. **Acts 1:9**

A cloud separated Him from His apostles, mirroring what His return will look like.

III. WHEN DID HE ASCEND?

A. **Acts 1:1-3**

He returned to heaven forty days after rising from the dead, an adequate period to infallibly prove Himself alive.

B. **Mark 16:19**

He ascended immediately after commissioning His apostles to preach to the world – a dramatic exit following a most serious command.

IV. WHERE DID HE ASCEND?

A. **Luke 24:50-51**

He went up **from** Bethany, a village near Jerusalem (**Mark 11:1**), just two miles away (**John 11:18**), because they were to remain at Jerusalem until they received their power (**Luke 24:48-49; Acts 1:4, 8**).

B. Ephesians 1:15-23

He went **up** to heaven.

V. WHY DID HE ASCEND?

A. John 16:5-16; Acts 1:4-5, 8

He would not have sent the Holy Spirit otherwise.

B. Mark 16:19; Acts 2:33-34

He ascended to be exalted!

C. Acts 3:19-26

It is God's plan for the Lord to remain in heaven until all is fulfilled.

D. Acts 5:31

Our salvation depends on it.

E. Hebrews 10:11-14

He finished His earthly work.

F. John 14:1-3

He went to prepare our heavenly mansions!

VI. WHAT IS HE DOING SINCE ASCENDING?

A. Acts 7:54-60

He received Stephen.

B. Acts 9:1-19

He called Saul and He sent Ananias to him.

C. Revelation 1:1

He communicated the Revelation to John.

D. Romans 8:34; Hebrews 4:14-15; 7:25; 9:24

He intercedes for Christians.