

Ascension

1. Ascension is the doctrine of Christology pertaining to our Lord in Heaven. When Christ resurrected then ascended into heaven the stage was set for a the Church Age to begin on the day of Pentecost.
 - Ascension was portrayed in Israel once a year when the High Priest went into the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement.
 - He went from the brazen altar to the Holy of Holies, and that portrayed Christ going from the cross to the third heaven.
 - Age of Israel interrupted by Church Age but will resume for seven more years in the Tribulation.
2. Capabilities of the Resurrection body:
 - Lord could not ascend in His human body, it had to be changed.
 - His resurrection body could travel horizontally, vertically, and was capable of space travel. (Matthew 28:10, Acts 1:9-10)
 - He was able to appear and disappear. (Luke 24:17)
 - He walked through closed doors. (John 20:19, 26 , Luke 24:36)
 - He could eat. (Luke 24:30, 43)
 - He had flesh and bones. (Luke 24:39-40)
 - He could talk (John 20:26), and had his same voice. (John 20:16)
 - He breathed. (John 20:22)
 - He could be touched. (Luke 24:30-40, Matthew 28:9, John 20:17)
 - He was recognized as a human body. (Luke 24, John 20)
 - His body did retain the scars in side, hands, and feet. (John 20:25-27)
 - Our resurrection body will be like His. (Philippians 3:21, 1 John 3:2)
 - At the Rapture we will be changed into our resurrection bodies so that we will be able to see Christ appear in the heavens. Then we will ascend to be with Him. (1 Corinthians 15:51-57, 1 Thessalonians 4:17-19). Our soul and spirits enter our resurrection body. (Philippians 3:21, 1 John 3:1-2, 1 Corinthians 15:51-57, 2 Corinthians 5:8)
3. Reception and acknowledgement of the Son at the right hand of God is important.
 - Christ actually sat in the mercy seat of heaven.
 - The Levitical Priest never sat down in the Tabernacle.
 - The seating of Christ in the Holy of Holies is significant in History. The Lord was seated to resolve the Angelic conflict. (Psalms 110:1)
 - Christs is the supreme authority over all creatures and man. (Romans 8:34).
 - Holy Spirit has new ministry in Church Age (Ephesians 1:20, Colossians 3:1, Hebrews 1:3, 13, 8:1, 10:12, 12:2)
 - His seating verifies the validity of Him bearing our sins and gives Him the title “King of Kings, Lord of Lords”. (Revelation 19:16)

4. The celebrityship of Christ is confirmed by session or being seated at the right hand of God the Father in heaven. (Acts 2:33, 5:31, Philippians 2:9)
 - His ascension and session completes His glorification. (Acts 2:33, 5:31, Philippians 2:9, 1 Peter 3:22)
 - As God-man, He is unique. He has the most illustrious celebrityship of all time. (Hebrews 1:3)
5. The strategic victory of the Angelic conflict is accomplished at the same time.
 - Hebrews 1:3-13
 - Intensified stage of the Angelic conflict is set in motion. (Ephesians 1:20-22, 4:7-10)
 - This means the royal family of God (Church Age believers) is involved in the intensified stage of the Angelic conflict.
6. Ascension and formation of the royal family of God.
 - Christ is seated alone now but He has a bride being formed for Him in the Church Age.
 - God the Holy Spirit baptizes us into union with Christ and that makes the Church Age believer the bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:22-33).
7. Ascension and the new Church Age priesthood. (Hebrews 8:1)
 - In the Church Age there exists a royal priesthood where every believer is a priest. (1 Peter 2:5, 9, Revelation 1:6).
 - Christ is the new High Priest for the Church (Hebrews 10 and 7:25).
 - There will be no Levitical Priesthood in the Tribulation. All worship and function will center in the 144, 000 Jews called out of every tribe for spiritual leadership.
 - There will be no worship in a temple in the Tribulation for the temple is a false one set up by the false Christ, the beast of Israel.
 - There will be no sacrifices by these 144,000 Jews and no Levitical Priesthood.
8. Ascension and the defeat of Satan.
 - Ascension was the first phase of Operation Footstool when Christ defeated Satan.
 - Christ is seated at right hand of Father until He returns and puts Satan under his foot. (Luke 20:42-43, Zechariah 13:2, Colossians 2:15, Revelation 10:1-3)

- Second stage of binding Satan occurs at the end of the Millennium during the Gog and Magog rebellion. (Revelation 20:7-10)
9. The Ascension verifies the efficacy or effectiveness of the saving work of Christ on the cross bearing our sins.
 - Ascension verifies the blood of Christ. (Hebrews 9:23-24)
 10. The royal priesthood of the Church Age now offers spiritual sacrifices to Christ on the altar in the soul. (Hebrews 13:10-18, Hebrews 10:12)