

THIS SAME JESUS

Acts 1:9-11

Introduction: These three verses are three of the most wonderful verses in the New Testament. They are solemn, delightful, instructive and practical. They speak of the glorious ascent of Jesus and of His second coming. Here are four things that are very important and every Christian needs to understand them.

I. THE LORD JESUS CHRIST HAS ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN (v9)

1. What is the meaning of "ascension?" Why was Jesus taken up and what happened to Him?
- Jesus ascended back into heaven to claim His rightful place as King of the universe.
Daniel 7:13-14
2. In heaven Jesus is carrying on His great intercessory work as our Advocate and High Priest.
Hebrews 9:12
3. The exalted Christ has claimed and taken possession of Heaven as the Forerunner (First One) of His people. *Hebrews 6:14, 16-20*
4. Our Savior took His place upon the throne of glory to secure the everlasting salvation of all His redeemed ones. *John 17:2; Romans 5:10; 8:28*

II. THE LORD JESUS IS COMING AGAIN (vv10-11)

1. God sent two angels with this word of promise to all of His family and this promise ought to cheer hearts, enliven souls, and encourage hope. However, God does not intend for us to know when this will happen.
- Christ's second coming will be a personal, bodily advent. *Revelation 1:7*
- It will be a glorious appearing. *2 Thessalonians 1:7-10*
- It will be the completion of our salvation. *Romans 13:11; Ephesians 1:14*
- Our Lord will appear suddenly, without warning, as a thief in the night. *1 Thessalonians 5:1-6*

III. OUR LORD'S SECOND COMING WILL BE THE CLIMAX OF GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSE

1. *Acts 3:19-21; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28* - Once our Lord appears in His second coming everything after that will happen with great speed
2. There will be a RESURRECTION. *John 5:28-29*
- All remaining dead shall be raised and face the judgment of God
3. There will be a GREAT REGENERATION. *2 Peter 3:9-14*
- This old universe will pass away and God will make a new one.

4. There will be a UNIVERSAL RECONCILIATION. *Revelation 5:13*
- All opposition to God will end and all the universe will bring glory to Him.

IV. THE ONE WHO IS COMING FOR US IS "THIS SAME JESUS"

1. Jesus said that He would never leave us. He also said that He was going to prepare a place for us and come back for us.
2. Jesus will not "send" for us. He will not send angels for us. He will come for us, in person, the same as when He left to prepare a place for us.

CONCLUSION:

1. If a Christian has nothing else in his/her life to look forward to but this scripture of promise, there is nothing this world can offer or promise that is greater.
2. Every Christian needs to memorize these verses of promise and live his/her life around them.
3. Just think! Jesus defends us when we break God's laws and is busy preparing a place for us and in God's time, He will come back down here and get us, personally.
4. One of these days we will feel a shiver go over us and in the next instant we will be looking down at this old earth getting smaller and smaller and look up and see heaven getting closer and closer.