

**“The Fulfillment of the Gospel In Christ’s Return”**  
“Implications of the Gospel” — Part 6  
*Acts 1:6-11*

***The gospel will be brought to fulfillment  
by the Lord Himself.***

So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."  
Acts 1:6-11

**We believe in the personal, bodily, and glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service, and energetic mission.**

**Three dimensions of the gospel:**

- **Past:** The gospel has been accomplished in the past by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We have been justified by God’s grace! We are no longer subject to the penalty of sin.
- **Present:** The gospel is currently being applied to our lives by the Holy Spirit. We are being sanctified! We are progressively being set free from the power of sin.
- **Future:** The gospel declares that in the future we will be saved by God’s power when we are delivered from even the presence of sin.

**The Return of Jesus Christ**

**1. Jesus prepared His disciples for what is to come.**

After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."  
Acts 1:3-5

**2. The ascension is a visible representation of spiritual reality.**

"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.  
Daniel 7:13-14

..."Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals."  
Revelation 5:2-5

### **The Song of Christ's Authority**

..."You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."

..."Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

..."To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"  
Revelation 5:9-13

### **3. Confused disciples needed angelic clarification about Jesus' ascension.**

"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."  
Acts 1:11

"At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory.  
Matthew 24:30

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.'  
Matthew 25:31-34

### **4. The return of Jesus Christ became a critical element of the disciples' instruction.**

All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. God is just:

He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels.

2 Thessalonians 1:5-7

"Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

Revelation 22:12-13

***Jesus is coming again!***

He who testifies to these things says,

"Yes, I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Revelation 22:20