

The Post-Ascension Ministries of Christ **a brief overview from Basic Theology – Ryrie**

“The resurrection and ascension of our Lord provided His entrance into heaven and the beginning of additional ministries for Him. _____, at least, He has already done; others He is _____ throughout the entire period between His ascension and His second coming; others are yet to begin in the _____.” Charles C Ryrie

I. Past Ministry – The Sending of the Holy Spirit

“Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will _____ him unto you.” John 16:7; Acts 2:32-33

Holy Spirit Ministry within the Church Age Saint:

- Indwelling – Gift of God to _____ believers
- Sealing – Guarantees the _____ fulfillment of God’s promises to us
- Baptizing – Places those who believe into the _____ of Christ
- Gifting – God-given ability for _____
- Filling – Influence and _____ of the Spirit
- Teaching – Result is that Christ is _____
- Guiding – Receive direction

- Assuring – Assurance of position in Christ
- Praying – Guides and directs our prayers
- Sanctifying – Prominent agent of our growth

II. Present Ministry

A. Head of His Body

“By His resurrection and ascension our Lord was positioned in the place of honor at the right hand of the Father to be Head over the church His body (Eph. 1:20-23). This involves a number of specific _____ He performs in relation to the body.”

1. **He formed the body** – “He formed the body by sending the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost to baptize believers into the body (Acts 1:5; 2:33; 1 Cor. 12:13).”
2. **He cares for the body** – “He sanctifies it (Eph. 5:26), a reference to the entire process of sanctification that begins at conversion and continues until we are presented perfect in His presence in heaven.”
3. **He gives gifts to the body** – Eph. 4:7-13 “Christ conquered sin and death during His ministry on earth; now He gives gifts to His followers during His ministry in heaven.”
4. **He empowers the body** – John 15:1-10 “This well-known illustration of the Vine and branches makes clear that without the power of the living Christ flowing through us we can do nothing.”

B. Priest for His People

“As a faithful Priest our Lord _____ for His people (Heb. 7:25). The writer linked this ministry to the fact that this Priest, unlike Old Testament priests, is not subject to death anymore but abides a Priest forever and lives forever to intercede for His people.”

- Sympathizes, aids, and supports in times of trouble, giving grace to His people
- Intercedes – to keep from evil; to bring out of evil
- Anchor and forerunner of our soul

C. Preparer of a Place for Us

“Part of His present work today is preparing these residences for His own.” John 14:1-3, 6, 23

III. Future Ministry

A. Raise the Dead

“In the future _____ people will hear the voice of Christ raising them from the dead (John 5:28-29). Some will be called to eternal life and others to condemnation.”

B. Reward All People

“As with the resurrection, judgment for _____ will not take place at the same time, but Christ will judge ____.”
John 5:22, 27

C. Rule This World

“When our Lord returns He will take the reins of government and rule the nations of this world as a benevolent dictator (Rev. 19:15).”

Jesus is coming again! *The thought made the disciples glad when they returned to Jerusalem from the Mt. of Olives that Ascension Day! They watched for Jesus' return and actually expected Him in their lifetime. Yet, more than 2000 years later, we continue to wait, live godly, pray, and serve Him faithfully. Let's not get distracted by the pull of this world, let's not get sidetracked by religious activity or empty ambitions, Let's stay focused on what is the heart of our dear Jesus---the Good News to the world, making disciples, and in doing so, bringing Him glory! Titus 2:11-15; Col. 3:1-4; 2 Peter 3*