

“At Easter, it was the Lord’s resurrection which was the cause of our joy; our present rejoicing is on account of his ascension into heaven. In this solemnity we are commemorating that day on which our poor human nature was carried up, in Christ, above all the hosts of heaven, above all the ranks of angels, beyond the highest heavenly powers to the very throne of God the Father” (St. Leo the Great).

1-To the critics of a bodily Resurrection & Ascension...The Ascension actually answers where the body went...Heaven.

(Eyewitnesses: Jesus appears, ate with them, they touched His wounds, Jesus said: I’m not a ghost: The Scriptures and Jesus Himself is emphasizing “This is **A.His Body.” Jesus appears to them in a real physical body.**

2-Why is a bodily Ascension important? Now, our humanity is raised up to Heaven to share in Christ Jesus’ Divinity.

-The Shikina Cloud...This cloud representing God’s Glory is found in the Old and New Testaments; even at Jesus’ Transfiguration. We see Jesus seated at Right Hand of the Father and thus Jesus shares in the Father’s Authority/Glory.

-We will & do ALSO share in this Glory.

-Our humanity, our bodies, are redeemed, and given eternity.

My Greek Icon, Adam & Eve being raised from their coffins, literally pulled up by Jesus Himself after the Resurrection. And behind Jesus are the Old and New Testament Saints awaiting His arrival. To be taken to a real place (Heaven).

3-Heaven & Earth Connected...Heaven is a place (Jesus, Mary, Elijah, (Orthodox Jews believe Moses: are all taken up to Heaven bodily).

-Jesus’ appearances, Eucharist, Mass, are all moments when these two physical places (Heaven & Earth) touch, i.e., connect/overlap.

4-”But when the Spirit of truth comes he will lead you to the complete truth.”

-Coming HS...Through Eucharist/Mass/Sacraments. (Jesus is available “intimately” with us) Not bound to space & time...Our Bodies become temples.

(“Behold, I am with you always, to the close of the age.”) **B.Eucharist!...His Body!**

-Eucharistic Adoration: Mercy Me-song: “I Can Only Imagine.”) Jesus is now present to us bodily via the Holy Eucharist via the Holy Spirit.

-(The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things. John 16) So get busy boys: (Great Commission).

-Holy Spirit: Counselor, Paraclete: is the animator

-Shows us how we live this faith out “in the body (C.Church: His Mystical Body**).**

-Intimacy leads us to live in freedom using our gifts, bodies given to us.

-To accept, appreciate, and love the bodies our Lord has given to us.

-The Ascension of Jesus Christ is not simply a glorious finale of the story of human salvation, but a glorious beginning. In His departure from earth, Our Lord

came to man as never before. By the mystery of the Ascension, Jesus gave his Church a miraculous sign that He is not far, and that the human body that houses the human spirit is something that belongs with God. As Pope St. Gregory the Great wrote concerning the significance of Our Lord's bodily Ascension:

-Practical: Get specific in prayer (Madrid Show): You want to know what God has planned for you. Don't make the faith so complex; simply "each day" Ask God to guide you...As my mother "quoting the Psalms" told me: "Son, always keep your eyes on the Lord, and He will guide your path."