

## **THE ASCENSION 2022.**

### **SHARING IN HIS GLORIFICATION:**

The apostles up until this date had not yet understood the Messianic mission of the Lord. They were still focused on the idea of an earthly Kingdom. ***\*Is it now that you will restore the kingdom of Israel\* (Acts:1:6).***

We can imagine this moment, after Jesus was with them in person that whole time...walking, working miracles, curing the sick, **raising the dead, eating and drinking alongside with them, and teaching them...**to those apostles the very idea of the heavenly kingdom was still very far from them.

In spite of their unbelief, and difficulty in understanding, Jesus had **trust and confidence in them,...and it is in such people as these that** He established His Church. That is the very reason why they needed the Holy Spirit before taking over the mission: ***Do not leave Jerusalem but wait for the fulfillment of the Father's promise about which I have spoken to you (Acts 1:4).***

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth (Act.1:8).* He had a project for them similar to how he has one for us today to continue evangelizing and witnessing Him in our present day society. We should not **keep on looking upward** and must take **responsibility and act now.** He needs to use this current moment in **time, and the talents and treasure** He has given to

each and everyone of us. He needs us. He is no longer physically with us in person, but has promised to be with us until the end of time in spirit ***\*Behold I am with you till the end of time (Mt 28:20).***

Ascension doesn't mean **absence of Jesus Christ but rather Christ taking a new role in us in a glorified manner.** It is not about Jesus' celestial journey through the stars (Pope Benedict XV1), rather it is about His glorification while being with us in His glorified state. He will fulfill our needs and the needs of others through what He has given us.

- \*He needs your hands on earth to raise up the fallen.**
- \*He needs your Feet to seek out the lost.**
- \*Your Eyes to see the silent tears of those suffering.**
- \*Your Ears to listen to the lonely and the desperate.**
- \*Your Tongue to give the words of encouragement and comfort to those who have given up hope in life.**
- \*Your Heart to love those who have no one to love.**
- \*Your Shoulder to support the weak and weary in life.**

Our mission is clearly stipulated as His disciples (that we are to be the living body of Christ)...how are you going to do it?

The facts of the Ascension are the **triumph and victory of Christ over sin and death through the Resurrection and Ascension.** ***He went to prepare a place for us so that where I am you might also be there (Jn. 14:1-4).***

**The Ascension gives us that sense of completion of our earthly life.** It tells us that this world is not our home, we are just passing through, and our final destination is in Heaven.

The time of the earthly public appearance of Jesus is over. He is raised far above every **principality, authority, power, and dominion...**His **Grace, truth, and salvation are for all, they are not possessions belonging to any one country, culture, or political party.**

***SALVATION FOR ALL:***