

Why the Ascension Matters so Much (Psalm 68; Ephesians 4: 8-10)

- The Ascension is one of the most important doctrines in the Bible
- Gresham Machen: *Christianity is an event-centered religion*
- Christianity is rooted and grounded in historical events – these are facts
- Paul: if the resurrection didn't happen, *we are most to be pitied (1 Cor 15)*
- Without the ascension: no triumph, there could be no forgiveness of sin

I. The Ascension as an Event in History

- Two states of the incarnate Christ: 1) His humiliation 2) His exaltation
- If Christ is not raised, still in sin (*1 Cor 5:17*) so too without the ascension

II. The Ascension and Christ's Kingship and Glorified Humanity

- Jesus *appointed heir of all things...sat down at God's right hand (Heb 1:3)*
- Ascension: is Jesus' exaltation as God man, crowned with glory & honor

III. The Ascension and Christ's Appointment to Priesthood

- Jesus has entered into heaven, OT copy of these things (*Heb 9:11,12*)

IV. The Ascension and the New Covenant

- Oath of the priesthood that makes Jesus' guarantor of *a better covenant*
- *Heb 7:22; Heb 8:1-2,5, 6; 9: 11-12; 9:15, 23-24; 10:10-14*

V. Whom Have I in Heaven But You

- *Rom 10:4* He died our death, lives our life, He is seated in heaven for us

VI. Jesus' Ascension Victory – God Rescues us

- *Psalm 68; Eph 4:8-10* "He led captives' captive and gave gifts to men"