

Oaks-West church of Christ

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. • Bible Study: Following 1st Service
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Services are live-streamed to our website: oakswestchurchofchrist.com

April 13, 2025

He's Coming Back

by George Slover

"Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." (Acts 1:9-11)

On Mount Olivet, a Sabbath day's journey from Jerusalem, Jesus gave his last instructions to his Apostles. Then suddenly he was taken in a cloud. Luke is the only one to record the details of the ascension of Jesus. The Lord's attempts to prepare his disciples for his departure during his earthly ministry are recorded by other gospel writers.

Luke records: *"while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight."* One can only imagine

how they must have felt by the sudden departure of their spiritual leader. Jesus would set them loose in a sin broken world to herald a message that would be rejected by the majority. "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you." (John 15:18) I suspect they had a knot in their stomach when he disappeared.

The ascension of Christ presents a problem for the opponents of Christianity because it is inseparably connected to His resurrection. Jesus left nothing behind in this world. He never wrote a book. He did not leave behind an estate. He did not even leave behind even one artifact to be placed in a museum. He left nothing but an empty tomb and twelve men to testify of his life. Had Jesus simply died he would be no better than Confucius or Mohammed. However, by His ascension, Jesus was fully enthroned as Lord and Christ!

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends. We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Ladies' Class – April 22

Gospel Meeting – Lost Pines church of Christ, Bastop, April 13-16 with Terry Sumerlin

Our Next Gospel Meeting with David Watson is scheduled for May 4-7

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

In heaven He is exalted to a position of highest honor and authority. (Acts 2:32-36)

In addition Luke records: that *two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."* Though the Master has been taken away, he will come again in a manner more splendid and a form more glorious! All is not lost! He's coming back! He will return at an unexpected time!

In several parables Jesus taught that those who are wise will prepare for the unexpected appearance of the bridegroom or the return of the master. (see Matthew 25) His ascension is a reminder to his disciples that they have work to do while he is away. Only those who have zealously prepared for His return will be blessed.

Prayer Requests

Jack Wilson is still struggling with pain and limited mobility.

Jimmy Stinnett is struggling from his leukemia and is under treatment.

Dinah Williams is having some issues with her legs from diabetes.

Dorothy Steadman finished her radiation treatment.

Audria Trammel will have surgery April 15 for breathing issues.

Shut-ins: Don and Alene Simmons, Dinah Williams, Marcia Neuhaus, Shirley Perkins

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization – we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

Evangelist

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