

Biblical Truth about
the **Ascension** and **Return** of Jesus Christ

- I. Jesus Christ **ascended** to Heaven—and **He is coming back soon** for His Church!
(John 14:1-6; Acts 1:1-11)

- II. The “**pre-tribulational rapture**” of Jesus Christ’s Church is the next event on God’s eschatology timeline. **(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Titus 2:13)**
 - When Christians die their souls go directly to Heaven while their **bodies** remain here on Earth.
 - The rapture will be a **bodily** resurrection, not a spiritual resurrection.
 - The rapture will be a “**one-time**” resurrection, not a recurring resurrection.
 - The “blessed hope” of the rapture should help **Christians** rejoice and persevere rather than be afraid or scared.

- III. Although this world is broken and in pain, **the Great Tribulation has not yet happened.**
(1 Thess. 1:10; 5:1-11; 2 Thess. 2:1-3; Revelation 3:10-11; 6-16)
- IV. The pre-tribulational *rapture* of Jesus Christ's Church is **not** the same event as **the pre-millennial second coming of Jesus Christ.**
(Acts 1:11; 1 Thess. 4:16-18; Zechariah 14:1-4ff)
- V. Jesus Christ's Church, while it is still temporarily here on Earth, is commissioned by Jesus Christ to **share the good news of His Gospel** and to **make disciples.** **(Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:1-8)**
- How are you **obeying** Jesus Christ's Great Commission?
 - How are you **displaying** your "love" for "His appearing?"

Big Idea:

*Jesus Christ can (and could) return right now for His Church!
Are you ready and looking forward to meeting Him?*