

Wisdom not Worry
Thursday, May 21, 2020

**“The Lord says to my lord, ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet’”
(Psalm 110:1).**

Do you know what day it is? With all the commotion surrounding the global COVID crisis, I confess, I almost missed it! As I write this, it's 4:45 on Wednesday afternoon and the Spirit graciously reminded me of an event in the ministry of Christ that has had global impact. Do you remember? We don't commemorate this event with the same celebrative fanfare we do Christ's birth, death or resurrection, but perhaps we should. It certainly isn't any less significant. Has it come to you yet? Today, forty days after Easter, is Ascension Day, the day we remember that Christ, before the eyes of his disciples was taken up from the earth into heaven to be enthroned in His rightful place as King (Mark 16:19, Luke 24:50-51, Acts 1:9-11), leaving us to do the work of the Church.

You aren't likely to decorate a tree, prepare a feast or string lights, but may I invite you at very least to ponder the rich benefits of Christ's ascension? Reflect on Lord's Day 18 of the Heidelberg Catechism:

Q. How does Christ's ascension into heaven benefit us?

A. *“First, He is our advocate in heaven before his Father”* (1 John 2:1). Be *strengthened* knowing the one who died for you now intercedes for you, defending you against the condemning whispers of the enemy.

“Second, we have our flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that He, our Head will also take us, his members up to himself” (Eph. 2:4-6). Be *encouraged* knowing we have a glorious future in which injustice will be abolished, suffering will cease and death will be no more.

“Third, He sends us his Spirit (John 14:16) by whose power we seek the things that are above where Christ is seated at the right hand of God, and not the things that are on earth” (Colossians 3:1-4). Be *bold* knowing Christ has not left us alone but has given us His Spirit.

Grateful,
Pastor Ben