

New City Catechism Class

Week Fifty-One

Q51: Of what advantage to us is Christ's ascension?

A51: Christ physically ascended on our behalf, just as He came down to earth physically on our account, and He is now advocating for us in the presence of His Father, preparing a place for us, and also sends us His Spirit.

Romans 8:34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. (ESV)

- Why might this be a question that wouldn't regularly be asked by Christians? Is this question important to ask? Why?
- Why might it seem disadvantageous for Christ to have left us? (cf. Jesus statement in John 16:7)
- In what form is Christ now as He is seated at God's right hand? How does this bear upon Jesus' statement in John 16:7?
- In Romans 8:34, Paul asks the question, "Who is to condemn?" What is the answer? What are some implications?
- How does 1 John 2:1-2 help answer this question? How are advocacy and intercession related?
- What about Christ's work now helps us understand the advantage we have through Christ's ascension?
- When might this work of Christ intersect with your daily life?
- What does it mean that Christ is preparing a place for us? (cf. John 14:2-3)
- Why should this be an encouragement to you now?
- What does Christ sending His Spirit confirm about Christ now?
- What work is the Holy Spirit doing now on Christ's behalf?
- Why is it essential that the Spirit be given?

*What are ways you might grow in your understanding of the advantages found in Christ's ascension to the Father's right hand?
How might you share this with others?*