

ASCENSION OF JESUS CHRIST

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic

By: Fr. Alex Balatbat

May 21, 2022

The death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ led us to the discovery of our true identity that God sent His begotten Son to save us from our sins and eternal damnation. Indeed, Jesus' ascension signifies that He is alive, that we should embrace the cross and follow His footsteps and be filled with greatness, possibilities and compassion.

Reminders to celebrate greatness, possibilities and compassion

1. We should not be afraid of pain.

1.1. Don't be afraid of your pain, sorrow and brokenness because they are part of life's journey. The Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit (Ps. 147:3).

2. Painful journey can teach us and bring out the best in us.

2.1. Jesus didn't come to remove suffering and painful happening in our life because in suffering He is present. "Do not fear for I am with you" (Is. 41:10).

3. Successful people have biographies of failures.

3.1. They call failures as friends. This a good opportunity to learn from our mistakes, weaknesses, insults, hardships. It improves our capability, possibility and endurance which builds character. it is a prelude to success. For when I am weak, then I am strong (2 Cor. 12:9-10).

4. The center of our faith is the cross.

4.1 The cross is the symbol of death, resurrection, ascension and salvation. As Christians we have to embrace our cross – "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me (Mark 8:34).

5. We could discover blessing in our pain and sadness.

5.1 Jesus reminded us that suffering/sadness would be part of our life. "I have told you this so that you may have peace in me. Here on

earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." (John 16:33).

6. We should accept what we cannot do and achieve, so we can redefine who we really are.

We should also be aware of our limitations and acknowledge what we can do for the glory of God.

7. Jesus assured us that He will save our hearts from the blinding effects of anger, revenge, and mindset of failure.

He also declared that our bodies contain the seed of potential greatness if we choose to nurture it, and if we obey, honor and love Him.

8. Jesus wants us to regard one another with reverence.

We should not mock nor humiliate others, for we are baptized in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion:

The mystery of the Paschal mystery is shrouded in the assumption that God sent His begotten son, Jesus to become man like us. Jesus has assured us that everyone has a place in heaven, so we should live according to what he wants us to be. We should regard others with respect. He also reminded us that our dignity is deeply connected with the Holy Trinity and that we are created in the image and likeness of God.

Reflection:

1. How do you see your fellowmen?
2. Do you perceive others with adoration and respect?
3. Do you appreciate your fellowmen's worth and importance?

Transcriber/Writer: Sis Zee Fuentes

Approved/Final Edited by: Sis Vera I. Tuplano

For more teachings, visit our website:

<https://lordsflock.org/teachings/digests>

Tags: #Ascension