

All Age Service 29-5-22 - Ascension

Did you know in the Bible there are 2 books by Luke?

It was what he intended, it wasn't a fluke!

When he got to the end of his Gospel you see

There were so many good things to tell

So he took up his pen and began once again

to write the book of Acts as well.

Here's my second book, dear reader

You will recognise the people

Jesus and his followers, including Simon Peter,

2 men in white (remember them from Easter?)

The Angels at the tomb who asked "Why are you looking here?

Jesus isn't here he is risen, but do not fear."

He was risen indeed and met with his friends

He suddenly appeared and their joy knew no end.

He met 2 travellers on the road,

It was almost too good to be true

He met the fishermen on the beach

For a breakfast barbecue.

He talked about God's kingdom

To love and not to hate.

But one thing was clear. He told them "stay here

In the city of Jerusalem and wait."

God was going to give them a gift

And it would be something really great!

"Just stay here and wait?" they thought.

Why? What's going to happen next?

What will God give us? They were rather perplexed.

They wondered and they wondered.

Then they had a thought . . .

“Are you going to be made king at last?” they asked.

Jesus didn't say yes and he didn't say no.

It was going to be much better than that.

He was going to sit on a *heavenly* throne.

In God the Father's holy home.

You will tell my story all over the world

You will witness to all you have seen and heard.

A witness says “I saw it and I can say it's true”.

You can see I'm alive, said Jesus, and I'll still be here with you.

In a way you can't imagine

I will still be very near

Although you will not see me

I'll be with you, never fear.

But now I'm going back to the Father's side

And with that he began to float and to glide

Up and up, and up and up

Until all they could see was a big puffy cloud.....

So Jesus returned to his rightful place

At God's side in heaven,

while his friends on earth must wait.

Part 2

The friends of Jesus were still watching the sky
When those 2 men in white (those angels) came by.
Why are you looking up there? they said.
Listen to what we say.
You can be very sure of this: he *will* come back one day.
But now you have a task to do, and you'll get help to do it.
You'll have the power and find the words, from God, the Holy Spirit.

Tell all the world of Jesus and all that God can give
The Good News is for everyone no matter where they live.
At Pentecost the gift would come
Down and down and down
Down from heaven the Spirit came
With power and with the essence
Of Jesus to live inside them:
To be his real presence.

The friends of Jesus were happy to learn
That one day Jesus would return
But until then the Spirit inside
Would be their comfort and their guide.

And now it's our turn to witness
And join the great adventure
The Spirit is here with us as well
To guide, to heal, to help us tell:
Jesus is king, the king of love
For all time, everywhere, and for everyone.