What Heaven Saw

Ken Chapman · Acts 1:9–11

INTRODUCTION

- One that I would argue is maybe one of the most important aspects of the story of Christ. And yet one of the most neglected.
- I want to talk to you about the ascension of Jesus Christ.
- But this morning, I'd like for us to consider what heaven saw.

1 Heaven Saw an Obedient Son Returning

Revelation 4:8–11; Revelation 5:1–12

- First of all, heaven saw an obedient son returning.
- Maybe he was saying, My work here on earth is done.
- Why should every knee bow and every tongue confess? Because he was an obedient son that did what was told of him.
- Here is the Lamb. Here is the Son returning to glory, having been obedient to everything his father had asked of him to do.
- You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and have redeemed us to God by your blood.

2 A King Returning to Receive His Kingdom

Mark 16:19; Luke 19:11–12; Daniel 7:13–14

- Heaven also saw a king returning to his father to receive his kingdom.
- He was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. That's a king.
- A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return.
- I believe Acts 1 and Daniel 7 are talking about the same day, just on different sides of the cloud.
- The head that was crowned with thorns is now crowned with glory.
- Too many today are waiting for him to be made king when he returns. When the scriptures say he's already king.

3 A High Priest Coming Into the Presence of God

Hebrews 4:14; Acts 5:31; Hebrews 10:11–12

- Heaven also saw a high priest coming into the presence of God to make atonement for us.
- We have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens. Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.
- The high priest would take that blood, and he would go into the most holy place to offer that blood for the sins of the people.

- But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God.
- The old high priests were constantly standing. Why? Because their work was not done, their work was never done.
- It says that he sat down. The implication surely is his work was done. He offered it once for all.

4 What Heaven Sees When a Faithful Christian Passes

- What does heaven see? When a faithful Christian passes from this life, we know what we see.
- Heaven sees a faithful Christian coming home to his or her reward.
- Heaven sees a faithful soldier laying down his armor, coming home to victory.
- Heaven sees a pilgrim and a sojourner coming to their permanent home.
- Heaven sees one who loves the Lord coming to be with his or her Lord for an eternity.

THE CHALLENGE

If you obey the gospel this morning and live in the grace and the obedience of God, that when your time to leave has come, what a wonderful sight heaven will see.

MY NOTES