

PROOF JESUS REIGNS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD



PROOF JESUS REIGNS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD.

The usual proof for the resurrection of Jesus Christ is (appropriately so) the eye-witness testimony of the Apostles. Their testimony is very credible because after all, why would they maintain a testimony in the midst of suffering that only doomed them to more suffering and ultimately their martyrdom – if it were not true? People lie to get OUT of trouble – not to plunge themselves into even more trouble.

On the first sermon of the Christian era, the Apostle Peter shouted boldly and without fear to a large crowd of the SAME people who had earlier screamed to Pilate for Jesus' crucifixion: "God has raised this Jesus to life and we are all witnesses of the fact" (Acts 2:32).

But Peter did not stop there. He continued, "Exalted to the right hand of God, he [Jesus] has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out WHAT YOU NOW SEE AND HEAR" (Acts 2:33).

In other words, Peter pointed to the obvious sounds and sights of the Spirit as PROOF to his hearers that Jesus was RIGHT THEN at the right hand of God. His hearers were obviously convinced. About 3000 of them were baptized THAT VERY DAY.

Have you personally witnessed the present miracle activity of the Holy Spirit? Or have you heard that such things still occur?

Things such as speaking, praying, or singing in tongues, prophetic insight and speech both given and received, the sick healed on the spot, demons compelled to leave people, and God's presence so thick one can only move slowly, with reverence, reluctant to even speak, sometimes so overcome one falls to the ground.

It has been my great privilege to have witnessed these things. I am not sharing this to exalt my experiences or in ANY WAY to diminish the faith experience of those who have not personally witnessed such things. I simply want to remind the reader that THESE THINGS STILL HAPPEN TODAY as they did at Pentecost and the early days of the Church.

We too can view the present-day work of the Spirit as PROOF of the ascension of Jesus Christ to the right hand of God, in the same way it was proof to the hearers of Peter's first sermon.

Why were the Apostles so excited about the Spirit at Pentecost? Many reasons, I suppose, but this at least: Jesus told them he was returning to the Father. They would know he had arrived, because **WHEN** he got there, he would send the Spirit in power. Their job was to wait until the Spirit came.

I'm sure they wondered how long they would wait. But when the Spirit came, they knew **FOR SURE** where Jesus then was – he was at the right hand of the Father in heaven. For them it was **PROOF POSITIVE** their resurrected Savior also reigned as Lord over heaven and earth.

It is proof for us as well.