

**(c) From where he rules everything...
... for the sake of the Church**

Ephesians 1:19-22, "... the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church..."

(d) From where he pours out the Holy Spirit on His people

Acts 2:33, "Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing."

1 Corinthians 15:45, Revelation 3:1, 5:6, Romans 8:9-10
John 14:12,16-18

(e) From where he intercedes for his people

Hebrews 7:24-25, "but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵ Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them."

Jesus' resurrection and ascension

Discuss: Why does it matter that Jesus is alive?

1. Jesus' RESURRECTION: what did it "do"...

(a) ... to Jesus?

Romans 1:4, "... and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord"

Acts 13:32-33, "And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, ³³ this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also it is written in the second Psalm, "'You are my Son, today I have begotten you.'"

1 Timothy 3:16, "... He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory."

(b) ... for Christians?

Because HE is vindicated, WE are justified

Romans 6:9, "We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God."

Richard Gaffin: "a dead Christ is an unjustified Christ, and unjustified Christ means an unjustified believer."

Romans 4:22-25, "That is why his [Abraham's] faith was "counted to him as righteousness." ²³ But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴ but for ours also. It [righteousness] will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵ who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification."

Christ is raised as a second Adam...

... who gives resurrection life to his people

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 and 15:42-49

ADAM	CHRIST
Perishable body	Imperishable
Natural body	Spiritual body = of the HS
From the earth, of dust	From heaven
His people are like him and bear his image	His people are like him and will bear his heavenly image

2. Jesus' ASCENSION: what does it mean?

(a) The event of the Ascension

John 14:2, "In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?"

Acts 1:1-11

(b) The Ascension brings Jesus to the height of glory...

Hebrews 8:1, "... we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the holy places..."

Philippians 2:9-11, "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."