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A New Day

Watching and Waiting for a New Day

Luke 24:50–53 (HCSB)

*Then He led them out as far as Bethany and lifting up His hands He blessed them.
51 And while He was blessing them, He left them and was carried up into heaven.
52 After worshiping Him, they returned to Jerusalem with great joy. 53 And they were continually in the temple complex praising God.*

1. JESUS FULFILLED HIS _____ TO RETURN TO THE FATHER vv 50-51

- Jesus had told the disciples just days earlier that He was _____ to His Father’s house.

John 14:1–4 (HCSB)

“Your heart must not be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. 2 In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if not, I would have told you. I am going away to prepare a place for you. 3 If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come back and receive you to Myself, so that where I am you may be also. 4 You know the way to where I am going.”

- They watched Him go in the same way He would return.

Acts 1:9–12 (HCSB)

After He had said this, He was taken up as they were watching, and a cloud took Him out of their sight. 10 While He was going, they were gazing into heaven, and suddenly two men in white clothes stood by them. 11 They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up into heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come in the same way that you have seen Him going into heaven.” 12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called the Mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem - a Sabbath day’s journey away.

- Jesus remains in heaven today _____ on the Father to signal His return.

2. THE ASCENSION BROUGHT AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE OF _____ v 52a

- Up to now, they knew Jesus, even worshipped Him, but without full _____.
- Now that everything was made known to them (v. 45) they entered true worship.

2 Corinthians 3:14–16 (HCSB)

...but their minds were closed. For to this day, at the reading of the old covenant, the same veil remains; it is not lifted, because it is set aside only in Christ. 15 Even to this day, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts, 16 but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.

- The true worship of Jesus _____ until He returns.

3. JERUSALEM AND THE TEMPLE NOW BECOME THE _____ OF THE CHURCH vv 52-53

- The disciples returned to Jerusalem to await the full _____ of the Holy Spirit.

John 14:15–19 (HCSB)

“If you love Me, you will keep My commands. 16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. 17 He is the Spirit of truth. The world is unable to receive Him because it doesn’t see Him or know Him. But you do know Him because He remains with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. 19 “In a little while the world will see Me no longer, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live too.

- Because the Holy Spirit dwells in believers, we can work for Him until He returns.
- The Pentecostal power that powered the disciples, _____ us today.

The Next Step:

Worship, work, wait and watch for the return of Jesus.