



Salvador Dali, *The Ascension of Christ*

Jesus ascended *not* so that he might *withdraw* from the world, making room as it were for the mission of the Holy Spirit. Instead, his Ascension marked his transition from being present at one time and in one place, to becoming present in *all* places, *all the time*. Before his death, there were countless places where he was *not*. After his Ascension, there is *no place* where he is not. From being with only *some* of those who lived during his earthly years, he is with *all* of us *now*. And from having a *particular* presence and context for his ministry, Jesus in his Ascension transitioned to a *universal* presence for his continuing mission, so "that he might fill *all things*," even us.

Just as at his Baptism, in the Ascension of Jesus, the veil between heaven and earth, between the spiritual and the material, between God and us, is pierced and set aside.



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