UP, UP, AND A WAY!

When the disciples returned from the Mount of Olives, right after Jesus had ascended to heaven, they were filled with joy and triumph. Their Master and Friend had ascended to a position of power over the world and had invited them to approach God in His name with the absolute confidence that God would respond favorably to their prayers (John 14:13, 14). Even though they continued in the world, attacked by the forces of evil, their hope was strong. They knew that Jesus had ascended to prepare a place for them (John 14:1–3). They knew that Jesus was the Captain of their salvation and that He had opened a way into the heavenly homeland through His blood.

The ascension of Jesus to heaven is central to the theology of Hebrews. It marks the beginning of Jesus’ rule and the beginning of His High Priestly ministry in our behalf. Finally, and more important, Jesus’ ascension marks the moment that the new covenant, which provides the means through which we can approach God boldly through faith, has been inaugurated. It is our privilege now to approach God with confidence through Jesus and the merits of His righteousness.
Write out Hebrews 10 from the translation of your choice. If you’re pressed for time, write out Hebrews 10:19–22. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, or outline or mind-map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw Arrows to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in Hebrews 10:1–22. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

Did the Israelites in the wilderness have the assurance of salvation? Why or why not?

Because of Jesus, why should we not be afraid to draw near to a holy God?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/heb10-3
InT erpret

After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks seem to point to overall?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

What does the fact that the Creator would dwell among His people teach us about how close God can be to us? Does that reflect your reality now?

Read more at
www.inversebible.org/heb10-4
What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

Hebrews 9:24  
Exodus 19:3, 4  
Hebrews 12:18–21; 22–24  
Leviticus 10:1–3; 16:1, 2  
Colossians 3:1

What other verses come to mind in connection with the Ascension?

Review your memorized verse from Hebrews 10.
Meditate on Hebrews 10 again and look for where Jesus is.

What is He saying to you through these texts?

In what sense have we already arrived at the heavenly Jerusalem into the presence of Jesus?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/heb10-6
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the passage, what are personal applications you are convicted of in your life?

What are practical applications you must make in your social life regarding the Ascension?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/heb10-7
Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

With all of Hebrews teaching about the assurance of salvation, how must we be careful not to mistake presumption for assurance?

Why can we approach God without the need of anyone else but Jesus?

How can we have a genuine thirst when coming into the presence of God?

What are the conditions for us to be able to draw near?

What accusations could Satan make against you before God, if He were allowed?

How can we learn to make the promise of eternal life real to us now?

What answer can you give to those who say that this is all just a fantasy to help us feel better about our life here and now?