

INTRODUCTION: We confess with conviction: Jesus Christ is exalted and sits at the right hand of God the Father.

This truth – the Ascension – is not merely a liturgical celebration, but a life-defining, culture-transforming and world-condemning reality. It is the heartbeat of true faith, true churchmanship and true governance. This manifesto calls upon all schools, institutions, congregations and authorities to openly acknowledge and practically honour Christ's Ascension.

1. The Ascension is the greatest enthronement in history. The exaltation of Jesus Christ is not a mystical or symbolic event, but the beginning of the one true new world order. The last Adam, the Son of man, ascended in glory (Dan. 7:13-14), and all authority has been given to Him (Matt. 28:18). Therefore every so-called new order – from ideologies to political powers – must be judged in the light of his throne.

OUR DECLARATION: We acknowledge and confess that Jesus Christ is upon the throne and that no authority, institution or ideology can dethrone Him.

2. The Ascension is a political and public event. Psalms 2 and 110 teach us that the Ascension is a direct challenge to worldly powers and governments. When Christ is not acknowledged as King, the state or some other power takes that place. The consequences are injustice, chaos and the de-Christianisation of the public sphere.

OUR DECLARATION: We reject any movement that makes an idol of the state or authority and sets itself above the throne of Christ, and we call for a society in which authorities and governments acknowledge Jesus Christ as the Head of all authority (Ps. 2:10-12; Belgic Confession Art. 36).

3. The Ascension gives the church its anchor and mandate. The church that understands the Ascension is a church empowered by the Holy Spirit with boldness. It is therefore a church of world-engagement, not world-avoidance. The Spirit was poured out because Christ was exalted (Acts 2:33), and therefore the church may preach, pray, serve and live with authority.

OUR DECLARATION: We call upon congregations, Christian schools and organisations to actively celebrate, teach and confess the Ascension as the foundation of their calling.

4. The Ascension affirms the value of humanity and the glorious destiny of believers. Jesus Christ does not take only his divine nature to heaven, but also our human nature. The Ascension therefore confirms that believers do not merely live once, but die only once – and already live now to reign together in Him who has gone where no one else could (Eph. 1).

OUR DECLARATION: We confess the value of humanity, the hope of the resurrection with a glorified human body, and the eternal kingship of Jesus Christ over all things for time and eternity.

5. The Ascension confirms the power of prayer and the presence of the throne. Because Jesus Christ sits at the right hand of the Father, we have the boldness to pray, to work and to enter the world in his Name with faces that shine (John 16:24; 2 Cor. 3:12).

OUR DECLARATION: We call upon educators, church leaders, parents and pupils to come to know the truth of the Ascension as a source of strength and prayerful courage in daily life.

CLOSING DECLARATION: The removal of Ascension Day from public calendars does not reflect neutrality, but rebellion against the true King. This manifesto calls upon all Christians to openly and repeatedly confess the Ascension of Jesus Christ – in schools, communities, families, churches, institutions and governmental bodies.

OUR PUBLIC CONFESSION OF FAITH:
*Jesus Christ is exalted. He is Lord. To Him belong dominion,
power and glory – now and for ever. Amen.*