GONE TOO SOON

(Acts 1:8-11)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.[9] After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. [10]They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. [11]"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Jesus left because

WE'RE TO BE HIS PRESENCE AND DO HIS WORK BY HIS SPIRIT

- **Be His presence**

- **Do His work**

- **By His Spirit**

MJCOG—6.4.17 Ted Ewing, Ph.D.

QUOTES OF NOTE

BEING HIS PRESENCE

The church serves as an extension of the incarnation. (Philip Yancey, *The Jesus I Never Knew*)

For Christ plays in ten thousand places / Lovely in eyes and lovely in limbs not his / To the Father through the features of men's faces. (Gerard Manley Hopkins)

DOING HIS WORK

I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?" The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matt 25:35-40)

We are a contemplative order. First, we meditate on Jesus, and then we go out and look for him in disguise. (Mother Theresa)

He ascended so we could take his place…. When Jesus departed, he left the keys to the kingdom in our fumbling hands. (Philip Yancey, *The Jesus I Never Knew*)

EMPOWERED BY HIS SPIRIT

Something comes into our own energies and capacities and expands them. We are laid hold of by Something greater than ourselves. We can face things, create things, accomplish things, that in our own strength would have been impossible…. The Holy Spirit seems to mix and mingle His power with our own, so that what happens is both a heightening of our own powers, and a gift to us from outside. This is as real and definite as attaching an appliance to an electrical outlet, though of course such a mechanical analogy is not altogether satisfactory. (Dallas Willard, *Hearing God*)