

GOSPEL PEARLS

Until the end of the world

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Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this. 'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God. (Luke 24,46-53)

The disciples worship Jesus as He ascends to heaven. Then they return to Jerusalem with great joy at what they had experienced. Jesus' departure does not leave sadness and regret because the disciples perceive His presence, the company of Christ, will never forsake them until the end of the world. Do you feel Jesus' presence in your life?