

Mark 16:19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was **received up into heaven**, and sat on the **right hand of God**.

Acts 2:33 Therefore being **by the right hand of God exalted**, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

Colossians 1:25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God;

Colossians 1:26-27 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

²⁷ To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

"Wherefore He is able also to save them to the **uttermost** that come unto **God by Him**, seeing He **ever liveth to make intercession** for them." Hebrews 7:25. Though the ministration was to be **removed from the earthly to the heavenly** temple; though the sanctuary and our great high priest would be **invisible** to human sight, **yet** the disciples were to suffer **no loss** thereby. They would realize no break in their communion, and no diminution of power because of the Saviour's **absence. While Jesus ministers in the sanctuary above, He is still by His Spirit the minister of the church on earth.** He is **withdrawn from the eye** of sense, but His parting promise is fulfilled, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:20. While He **delegates His power to inferior ministers, His energizing presence** is still with His church. DA 166.2

Ambassadors for Christ have a **solemn and important** work, which rests upon some altogether too lightly. While Christ is the minister in the sanctuary **above, He is also, through His delegates**, the minister of His church on earth. He speaks to the people through **chosen men**, and **carries forward His work through them, as when** in the days of His humiliation He moved **visibly** upon the earth. Although centuries have passed, the lapse of time has not changed His parting promise to His disciples: "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." From **Christ's ascension to the present day**, men ordained of God, deriving their authority from Him, have become teachers of the faith. **Christ**, the True Shepherd, superintends His work **through** the instrumentality of these **undershepherds**. Thus the position of those who labor in word and doctrine becomes very **important**. In Christ's **stead** they beseech the people to be reconciled to God. 4T 393.1

When, in the midst of his blind error and prejudice, Saul was given a **revelation** of the Christ whom he was persecuting, **he was placed in direct communication with the church**, which is the light of the world. In this case Ananias **represents** Christ, and also represents Christ's ministers upon the earth, who are appointed to act **in His stead**. In Christ's stead Ananias touches the eyes of Saul, that they may receive sight. In Christ's stead he places his hands upon him, and, as he prays in Christ's name, Saul receives the Holy Ghost. All is done in the name and by the authority of Christ. Christ is the fountain; the church is the **channel** of communication. AA 122.4