

I. Introduction: Jesus appeared to the disciples, but Thomas was absent, so Jesus came back a week later and revealed himself so that every disciple knew He resurrected.

II. Jesus Confronts Unbelief (John 20:24-31)

A. Thomas' Skepticism Declared (vv. 24-25).

1. Thomas refused to believe that Jesus was resurrected because he didn't want to believe in the false hope that his Savior was somehow still alive.

B. Thomas' Cynicism Defeated (vv. 26-27).

1. Jesus confronted Thomas with his own words, proving that He not only was alive but that He had heard every word that Thomas had uttered in his disbelief.

C. Thomas' Conviction Demonstrated (vv. 28-29).

1. Thomas declared that Jesus was his Lord and his God because He had broken into his life and transformed his doubt into certainty.

D. Thomas' Salvation Demonstrated (vv. 30-31).

1. John explained that the purpose of his Gospel was to record the miracles of Jesus so that people might believe He is God and have eternal life through Him.

III. Conclusion: John writes His Gospel to demonstrate that Jesus is God so that all who believe in Him might be rescued from sin and granted eternal life.

Study Questions: Jesus Confronts Unbelief

1. Have you ever refused to believe God? What is the difference between doubt, and disbelief? Why are some people skeptical of God? Why do some people refuse to believe His Word?
2. What was Thomas' response to the news that Jesus rose from the grave? (**John 20:24-25**) Can you imagine if Jesus showed up at church and you missed it? How would you feel?
3. Why did Thomas react by saying He wouldn't believe? (**John 20:24-25**) How had he been cynical in the past? (**John 11:5-16; 14:5-7**) Why did he earn the title "doubting Thomas"?
4. How did Jesus dispel his doubts? (**John 20:26-27**) How did He greet them? (**v. 26**) What day of the week did Jesus reappear to the disciples? (**v. 26**) Why was this highly significant?
5. What did Jesus command Thomas to do? (**John 20:27**) What did Jesus reveal about His knowledge of Thomas' disbelief? (**v. 27**) What does Jesus know about your disbelief?
6. What great profession of faith did Thomas make regarding Jesus? (**John 20:28-29**) What kind of blessing did Jesus pronounce on those who believe without seeing? (**v. 29**)
7. What reason did John write his Gospel? (**John 20:30-31**) How many other signs did Jesus perform that were not written in his Gospel? (**v. 30; 21:24-25**) Do you believe in Jesus?
8. Can Jesus change your life? Your marriage? Your family? Your heart? Bring peace where there is fear? Calm your anxiety? Cure addiction? Do you believe or are you doubtful?

Prayer

1. Pray and ask God to help you overcome the doubt and skepticism in your life toward God.
2. Ask Jesus to help transform your doubt into confident trust in His sovereign power.