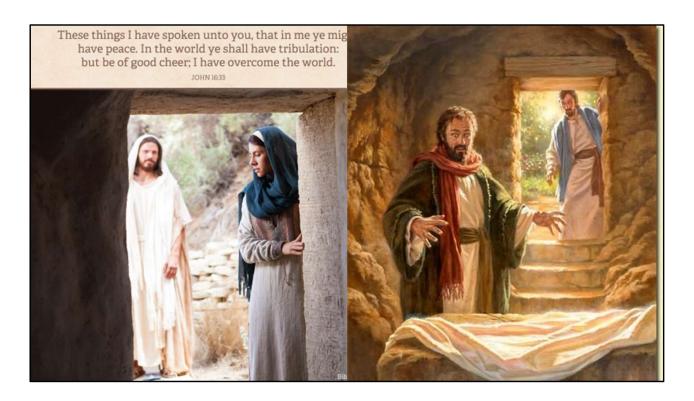


## The Son rises, the truth dawns, the darkness is dispelled

- John 20
- •Which of Jesus' disciples "believed" He had risen on Resurrection day? Who was 1st? Mary Magdalene! Where are the men?
- •2 Disciples Ran to see the empty tomb, why? How did they react?
- •There are a few interesting details, did you pick up on them and their meaning?
- •There is an illustrative theme woven through Johns gospel and it becomes visible here, what is it?
- •The 2 disciples who ran to the tomb were Peter and John, what lessons do these 2 men convey?
- •There were many doubts, is it a sin to doubt? Do you struggle with doubts?
- •Why do we doubt? Where do doubts come from?
- •What is the biggest reason most people doubt Jesus' resurrection?
- •How do/should Jesus' followers resolve and deal with doubt? How do you grow your faith?
- •What are some very real ways you and I wrestle with "doubts" today?
- •Jesus appeared to the disciples when Thomas wasn't there, Tom demanded proof. How would you have felt in his sandals? Does Thomas get an unfair criticism to call him "doubting Thomas"?
- •Is there anything significant about Jesus' 1st words/greeting to his followers?

- •Thomas responded in an interesting way, what does it show?
  •This chapter emphasizes true faith, how is it taught to us here? Who does Jesus say is "blessed"?



[Mar 16:9 NASB20] 9 [[Now after He had risen early on the first day of the week, <u>He first appeared to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons</u>.

[Luk 8:2 NASB20] 2 and [also] some women who had been healed of evil spirits and sicknesses: Mary who was called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, [Jhn 19:25 NASB20] 25 Now **beside the cross of Jesus stood His mother**, His mother's sister, Mary the [wife] of Clopas, <u>and Mary Magdalene</u>.

[Jhn 20:1, 18 NASB20] 1 Now on the first [day] of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and saw the stone [already] removed from the tomb. ... 18 Mary Magdalene came and announced to the disciples, "<u>I have seen the Lord</u>," and [that] He had said these things to her.

[Jhn 20:2-4 NASB20] 2 <u>So she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other</u> <u>disciple whom Jesus loved</u>, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we do not know where they have put Him." 3 So Peter and the other disciple left, and they were going to the tomb. 4 **The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead, faster than Peter, and came to the tomb first; [Jhn 20:5-9 NASB20] 5 and he stooped to look [in,] and saw the linen wrappings lying [there;] however he did not go in. 6 So Simon Peter also came, following him, and he entered the tomb; and he looked at the linen wrappings lying [there,] 7 and <b>the face-**

cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings but folded up in a place by itself. 8 So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb also entered then, and <u>he saw and believed</u>. 9 For <u>they did not yet understand the Scripture</u>, that He must rise from the dead.

Jhn 20:11-18 But Mary was standing outside the tomb, weeping; so as she wept, she stooped to look into the tomb; 12 and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been lying. 13 And they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they put Him." 14 When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing [there,] and [yet] she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Thinking that He was the gardener, she said to Him, "Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you put Him, and I will take Him away." 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means, Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, "Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'" 18 Mary Magdalene came and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and [that] He had said these things to her.

[Mat 28:5-10, 16-17, 19 NASB20] 5 And the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. 6 "He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. 7 "And go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see Him; behold, I have told you." 8 And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to report to His disciples. 9 And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Rejoice!" And they came up and took hold of His feet, and worshiped Him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go, bring word to My brothers to leave for Galilee, and there they will see Me." ... 16 But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated to them. 17 And when they saw Him, they worshiped [Him;] but some were doubtful. ... 19 "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

### (cf. Pss. 16:10-11; 110:1, 4; Isa. 53:11-12).

[Psa 16:10-11 NASB20] 10 For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol; You will not allow Your Holy One to undergo decay. 11 You will make known to me the way of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; In Your right hand there are pleasures forever.

Blum, E. A. (1985). . In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures (Vol. 2, p. 342). Victor Books. Blum, E. A. (1985). <u>John. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.)</u>, *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, p. 342). Victor Books.

### 1. Saw 20:1 g991βλέπει βλέπω blepō see (90x), take

heed (12x), behold (10x), beware (4x), look on (4x), look (3x), beware of (3x), to see, discern, of the bodily eye

- **2. Looking in 20:5 stooping and looking 3879** παρακύψας παρακύπτω **parakyptō** "a thing in order to look at it; to look at with head bowed forward; to look into with the body bent
- 3. he saw 20:6 PHRASE G2334 θεωρεῖ θεωρέω theōreō see (40x), behold (11x), perceive (4x), consider (1x), look on (1x). theōrei, "beheld attentively"
- 4. he saw g3708 εἶδεν ὀράω horaō see (51x), take heed (5x), behold (1x), perceive (1x), not translated (1x). to see with the eyes to see with the mind, to perceive, know. eiden, "perceived"

# And believed g4100 έπίστευσεν πιστεύω pisteuō believe (239x), commit unto (4x), commit to (one's) trust (1x),

Peter must have been thinking, "Why would a grave robber have left the clothes in this order? Why take the body of Jesus?" But John perceived that the missing body and the position of the grave clothes was not due to a robbery. He realized that Jesus had risen from the dead and had gone through the grave clothes. The tomb was open not to let Jesus' body out but to let the disciples and the world see that He rose.

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[Luk 24:11 NASB20] 11 But these words appeared to them as nonsense, and they would not believe the women.

## The Son rises!

- John 20:1 Now on the first [day] of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and saw the stone [already] removed from the tomb.
  - 1st day of the week, a new testament, a new week, SONday!
  - Mary Magdalene; forgiven much, love much
  - Came early to the tomb, still dark
  - Stone already removed! Where are the guards?

[Mal 1:11 NASB20] 11 "For from the rising of the sun even to its setting, My name [shall be] great among the nations, and in every place frankincense is going to be offered to My name, and a grain offering [that is] pure; for My name [shall be] great among the nations," says the LORD of armies.

[Mal 4:1-6 NASB20] 1 "For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming will set them ablaze," says the LORD of armies, "so that it will leave them neither root nor branches. 2 "But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and frolic like calves from the stall. 3 "And you will crush the wicked underfoot, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I am preparing," says the LORD of armies. 4 "Remember the Law of Moses My servant, [the] statutes and ordinances which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel. 5 "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD. 6 "He will turn the hearts of the fathers back to [their] children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and strike the land with complete destruction."

The biblical theology of light and darkness continues in the first chapter of Genesis when we read the refrain (after each creative day), "there was evening

and there was morning..." In his book <u>The Cross in the Experience of Our Lord</u>, R. A. Finlayson offered, what I believe to be, the best rationale for the days of creation being delineated by "evening and morning" rather than by "morning and evening" when he wrote:

God is at work as of old in a progressive development of light. We remember that, in the first creation, light came progressively. It was not the sun in its meridian splendor that shone; indeed there is evidence that the sun had come at a much later period than the light. But the light did come, it came to wax and grow. And it is significant that at every period in God's creative work, we read, 'And the evening and the morning were the first day, the evening and the morning were the second day', and so on. Why should it be evening and morning?" is is not after the manner of man's toil; he works from morning to evening. It is not enough to say that this is a Jewish division of time. We have to get behind that Jewish division of time, and ask how it came about that the Jew was taught to regard time as moving from evening to morning. It was God's pattern of workmanship. He is always facing the light, his back is on the evening, his face is towards the waxing light, and the rising sun. And if that was true in the natural creation, it is blessedly true in the spiritual creation. When God shines in our hearts with spiritual illumination, it is twilight with our souls; we see, though we see but dimly.

Yet God comes with waxing light, and as God's work develops, the light progresses until, eventually, it reaches noonday splendor. Our face is towards the sunrising, and our souls are looking towards the meridian splendor of God's fully developed work, and of God's self-revelation to our souls. We are always going from the evening to the morning as the work of grace progresses in our souls. We know that God is at work once again, in an ordered sequence of events, as he was in the first creation, for we know that there was a sequence in the divine operation. But the light was a harbinger of all life upon earth. As long as night had shrouded the world there was nothing on earth but desolation and death; nothing could live where the earth was enveloped in darkness; in the outer cold of space there was nothing but death. But when light came, things began to happen on earth. Not only did the clouds lift and the darkness break, and the day dawn, and the mountains of snow and ice melt, but life came with the light." e grass began to grow in the field, the trees in the forest, fish were placed in the ocean, birds in the air, beasts in the field, and eventually man came. But the light was the prerequisite of life, and the harbinger of every blessing that God was to give to the world. In like manner, is it not true that while the darkness of nature shrouded our hearts, there was nothing there but desolation and death? As long as we are ignorant of God in Jesus Christ we are spiritually dead; there can be no life at all as long as we are estranged from God, and aliens to his life and love. But when that light shone into our hearts, then life came. It was a harbinger of every blessing; every growth and every development in our being came because the light of the knowledge of Jesus shone into our hearts.

<u>Is it not true then, that we, who have been saved by grace, have felt the creative</u> power of God? Is it not true that the God who laid the foundations of that first

creation, and brought light out of primeval darkness, is the God who has shone into our hearts, and laid the foundations of a new creation which sin will not mar, and the flesh and the Devil cannot destroy? Yes, our dealings have been with the Creator-God who made himself known savingly and redeemingly to us in Jesus Christ his Son.1

https://feedingonchrist.org/a-biblical-theology-of-light-and-darkness/



A VISUAL COMMENTARY ON JOHN 4:1-42

Johns gospel account "Spotlights" the gospel with a "light show!"

Mal.4 - Jn.1

Jesus was born at night, Resurrected in the early morning

Do you like sudden blinding light  $\mathbf{1}^{st}$  thing in the morning or slowly illuminating light?

#### 20:1 while it was still dark

20:15-16 Jesus \*said to her, "Mary!" She turned and \*said to Him in [fn]Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means, Teacher).

20: 19 **Now when it was evening on that day**, the first *day* of the week, and when the doors were [fn]shut

The second-to-last plague God sent on Egypt was darkness. This was also a covenant curse promised to Israel (<u>Deut. 28:29</u>). It served as a picture of the "outer darkness" spoken of by our Lord (<u>Matt. 25:30</u>).

The Greek word  $\phi\tilde{\omega}\varsigma$  or  $\phi\omega\tau\dot{\omega}\varsigma$  (phōs or phōtos) which is translated as light, radiance; fire or lamp occurs **73 times in the New Testament**, **15 of which is in the Synoptic Gospels and 23 in the Gospel of John** (Balz & Schneider, 1993:447) https://www.biblicaltheology.com/Research/WaziriJA01.pdf

The movie begins: The cosmic conflict of He who is good and Evil begins with a glimmer of impending Hope!

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it." (Some translations say, "have not understood it." But the one other place John uses this Greek word, not counting 8:3, 4, is in John 12:35 which says, "Walk while you have the light, lest the darkness overtake you.") This is what I would call the "invincibility of light." It is not overcome. So you could label verse 5: "Light is triumphant over darkness."https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/triumphant-light

the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 4:6, where we read, "It is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." **Eric Alexander captures the essence** of Paul's use of the "creation light" analogy in the explanation of God's work of regeneration so well when he writes:

The New Testament ransacks the universe for comparisons that will be adequate to describe what has happened to us when we became God's children. And the only two possible comparisons are the creation of the universe at the beginning and the resurrection of Jesus on the third day. So Paul says the same God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness has shined in our hearts (2 Cor 4). And the same God who raised the Lord Jesus from the grave and broke its bondage over him has raised us in Jesus into newness of life.6

[Psa 27:1 NASB20] 1 [A Psalm] of David. The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom should I fear? The LORD is the defense of my life; Whom should I dread?

[Isa 9:2 NASB20] 2 The people who walk in darkness Will see a great light; Those who live in a dark land, The light will shine on them.

[Jhn 1:4-5, 9 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of mankind. 5 And **the Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not grasp it**. ... 9 [This] was the true Light that, coming into the world, enlightens every person.

[Jhn 3:19 "And this is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the Light; for their deeds were evil.

[Jhn 8:12 Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; the one who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

[Jhn 9:5 "While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world." (The Blind man sees and the seeing reveal they're blind!)

[Jhn 12:35 So Jesus said to them, "For a little while longer the Light is among you. Walk while you have the Light, so that darkness will not overtake you; also, the one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going.

[Luk 1:79 NASB20] 79 To shine on those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, To guide our feet into the way of peace."

[Luk 2:32 NASB20] 32 A light for revelation for the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel."

[Act 13:47 NASB20] 47 "For so the Lord has commanded us, 'I HAVE APPOINTED YOU AS A LIGHT TO THE GENTILES, THAT YOU MAY BRING SALVATION TO THE END OF THE EARTH.'"

[Jhn 12:46 NASB20] 46 "I have come [as] Light into the world, so that no one who believes in Me will remain in darkness.

### It took some time to wipe the sleep from Nic's eyes!

[Jhn 7:50 NASB20] 50 Nicodemus (the one who came to Him before, being one of them) said to them,

[Jhn 19:39 NASB20] 39 Nicodemus, who had first come to Him by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred litras [weight.]

# Simon Peter and the other disciple

- **B** Bookends of the disciples: Peter and John
- Oldest and youngest
- Personality: Impulsive/vocal, Pensive/quiet
- Peter denied, John never left Jesus' side
- These men wrote 7 or 8 of 21 New Testament books

# The disciple whom Jesus loved is John, we'll see that more next week John was more cautious

[Jhn 20:2-10 NASB20] 2 So she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we do not know where they have put Him." 3 So Peter and the other disciple left, and they were going to the tomb. 4 The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead, faster than Peter, and came to the tomb first; 5 and he stooped to look [in,] and saw the linen wrappings lying [there;] however he did not go in. 6 So Simon Peter also came, following him, and he entered the tomb; and he looked at the linen wrappings lying [there,] 7 and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings but folded up in a place by itself. 8 So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb also entered then, and he saw and believed. 9 For they did not yet understand the Scripture, that He must rise from the dead. 10 So the disciples went away again to their own [homes.]

Matthew was the only other disciple used to write scripture
\*Peter focused largely on Jews, John was used to support Paul in reaching
Gentiles, book of Revelation, and the World!

1st and 2nd Peter, gospel acc. To Mark

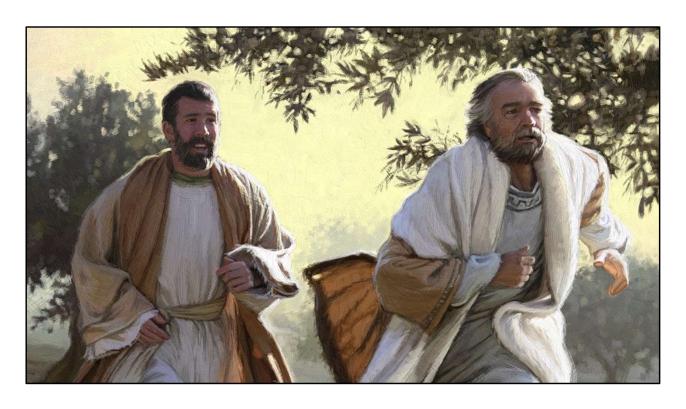
## John: Gospel of John, 1, 2, 3rd John, Revelation! 5 books

Peter was martyred, John lived/exiled, both were part of the inner circle of 3. John was a son of thunder and wrote the non synoptical gospel account

## Older doesn't always equal wiser!

Letter of Paul to the

- 1. Romans,
- 2. both Letters of Paul to the **Corinthians**,
- 3. 2 Cor.
- 4. Letter of Paul to the Galatians,
- 5. Letter of Paul to the **Philippians**,
- 6. Colossians
- 7. First Letter of Paul to the **Thessalonians**,
- **8. 2 Thess**. and
- 9. Letter of Paul to **Philemon**.<sup>0</sup>
- 10. The other four letters, namely **Ephesians**,
- 11.1 and
- 12.2 Timothy,
- 13. and **Titus**, are widely accepted as authentic
- 14. Hebrews??



They Ran one way but in radically different frames of mind on the way back Weren't they afraid of being seen and captured? Where were the other disciples? Peter got out of boat alone, John isn't letting him go alone this time. Apparently Mary followed with them

[Jhn 20:4 NASB20] 4 The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead, faster than Peter, and came to the tomb first;

# **Doubting is disbelieving**

- The Disciples did NOT explicitly believe the women
- Luke 24:21 "But we were hoping that it was He who was boing to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is [now] the third day since these things happen."

Jesus told them explicitly HE would rise from the dead! 3x at least! The Pharisees remembered!

[Mat 27:63-64 NASB20] 63 and they said, "Sir, we remember that when that deceiver was still alive, He said, 'After three days I am rising.' 64 "Therefore, give orders for the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise, His disciples may come and steal Him, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will be worse than the first."

Trustworthy disciples believed but they wouldn't believe them!

Lk.24:25 "You foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!

Luk 24:36-41 Now while they were telling these things, [Jesus] Himself [suddenly] stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace [be] to you." 37 <u>But they were startled and frightened, and thought that they were looking at a spirit. 38</u>
And He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why are doubts arising in your hearts? 39 "See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, because a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you [plainly] see that I have." 40 And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. 41 <u>While</u> they still could not believe [it] because of their joy and astonishment, He said to

them, "Have you anything here to eat?"

Mar 16:14 Later He appeared to the eleven [disciples] themselves as they were reclining [at the table;] and He reprimanded them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen [from the dead.]

Jhn 20:27 Then He said to Thomas, "Place your finger here, and see My hands; and take your hand and put it into My side; and do not continue in disbelief, but [be] a believer."

[Jhn 20:8-9, 8 So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb also entered then, and he saw and believed. 9 For they did not yet understand the Scripture, that He must rise from the dead. ...

[Mar 8:31 NASB20] 31 And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and **after three days rise [from the dead**.]

[Mar 9:31-32 NASB20] 31 For He was teaching His disciples and telling them, "The Son of Man is to be handed over to men, and they will kill Him; and when He has been killed, **He will rise three days later**." 32 But they did not understand [this] statement, and they were afraid to ask Him.

[Mar 10:34 NASB20] 34 "And they will mock Him and spit on Him, and flog Him and kill [Him;] and three days later He will rise [from the dead.]"

[Mar 16:9 NASB20] 9 [[Now after He had risen early on the first day of the week, He first appeared to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons.

[Mar 16:11-13 NASB20] 11 And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they refused to believe [it.] 12 Now after that, He appeared in a different form to two of them while they were walking along on their way to the country. 13 And they went away and reported it to the rest, but they did not believe them, either.

[Mar 16:14 Later He appeared to the eleven [disciples] themselves as they were reclining [at the table;] and He reprimanded them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen [from the dead.]

[Luk 24:16, 19, 21-27, 31-41, 45 NASB20] 16 But their eyes were kept from recognizing Him. ... 19 And He said to them, "What sort of things?" And they said to Him, "Those about Jesus the Nazarene, who proved to be a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people, ... 21 "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is [now] the third day since these things happened. 22 "But also some women among us left us bewildered. When they were at the tomb early in the morning, 23 and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive. 24 "And [so] some of those who were with us went to the tomb, and found it just exactly as the women

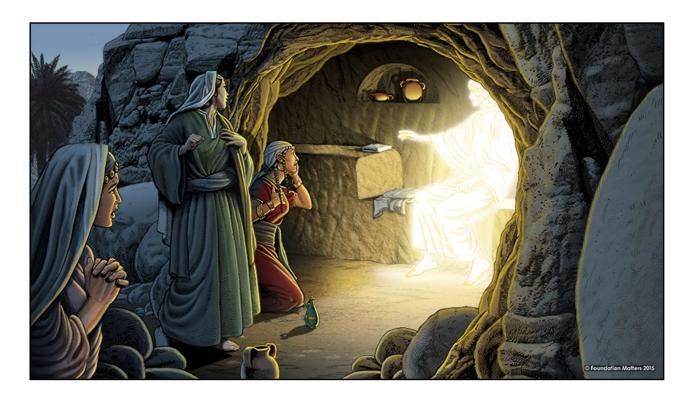
also had said; but Him they did not see." 25 And [then] He said to them, "You foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 "Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to come into His glory?" 27 Then beginning with Moses and with all the Prophets, He explained to them the things [written] about Himself in all the Scriptures. ... 31 And [then] their eves were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. 32 They said to one another, "Were our hearts not burning within us when He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?" 33 And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together and those who were with them, 34 saying, "The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon!" 35 They [began] to relate their experiences on the road, and how He was recognized by them at the breaking of the bread. 36 Now while they were telling these things, [Jesus] Himself [suddenly] stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace [be] to you." 37 But they were startled and frightened, and thought that they were looking at a spirit. 38 And He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why are doubts arising in your hearts? 39 "See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, because a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you [plainly] see that I have." 40 And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. 41 While they still could not believe [it] because of their joy and astonishment, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ... 45 Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,

[Mat 14:31 NASB20] 31 Immediately Jesus reached out with His hand and took hold of him, and said to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt[G1365]?"

[1Jo 1:1-4 NASB20] 1 What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life-- 2 and the life was revealed, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was revealed to us-- 3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.

# **Doubting is disbelieving**

■ Matthew 28:17 - And when they saw Him, they worshipped [Him]; but **some were doubtful**.



### Signs!

- 1. Dreams Pilates wife
- 2. Unprecedented, illegal overnight courtroom kangaroo courts! 6x
- 3. Tomb sealed and soldiers paid off instead of executed
- 4. Pilate declared Jesus an innocent man, a man who has ONLY done much great good! and proceeded to try to release him 4x and then executed an INNOCENT MAN!'
- 5. Earthquakes!- Tombs opened, Saints went into the city!
- 6. Unnerving darkness! Eclipse?
- 7. Historically verified Veil of the Temple was torn!! Mt.27:51
- 8. The Sadistic Centurion shaken and declared Jesus was truly the son of god. [Mat 27:54 NASB20] 54 Now as for the centurion and those who were with him keeping guard over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the [other] things that were happening, they became extremely frightened and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"
- 9. Powerful prophets' predictions of how He would die, when He would die, by whom and the promise of His resurrection prevail over Satna, Sin and death! Jesus told us all this!
- 10. Angels seen and conversed with Women, Soldiers, the pride of Rome, paralyzed and passed out
- 11. Reluctant converts stand up for Jesus after his death?: Joseph and Nicodemus

- 12. 20-30 Prophecies are fulfilled in Passion week, most importantly the Resurrection! 13. Cowardly disgraced disciples transformed into persevering preachers and martyrs!
- Heb 2:1-4 For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away [from it.] 2 For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every violation and act of disobedience received a just punishment, 3 how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, 4 God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders, and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

[Mat 28:2-4 NASB20] 2 And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone, and sat upon it. 3 And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. 4 The guards shook from fear of him and became like dead men.

# Why do people doubt Jesus' rising??

- We've all been fooled by our own eyes!
- We've all been deceived by trusted people!
- We've all lied to ourselves! Our own Hearts!
- We are not to be gullible! 2 Tim 2:15, Heb 5:14
- #1. If we believe Jesus rose, we must surrender!

### Be discerning, not gullible!

Don't be a pessimist or an optimist, but a Realist with hope (believing God is at work!)

## People Disbelieve Simply because they Want to Disobey!

2Ti 4:3 NLT For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear.

2Pe 2:2 NASB20 <u>Many will follow their indecent behavior</u>, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned;

2Pe 3:3, 5 ESV knowing this first of all, that <u>scoffers will come in the last days</u> <u>with scoffing, following their own sinful desires</u>. ... 5 For <u>they deliberately</u> <u>overlook this fact</u>, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God,

Jer 5:31 NASB20 The prophets prophesy falsely, And the priests rule on their [own] authority; And My people love it this way! But what will you do when the end comes?

[Jer 17:9 NASB20] 9 "The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it?

[Pro 28:26 NASB20] 26 One who trusts in his own heart is a fool, But one who walks wisely will flee to safety.

[Ecc 9:3 NASB20] 3 This is an evil in everything that is done under the sun, that there is one fate for everyone. Furthermore, the hearts of the sons of mankind are full of evil, and insanity is in their hearts throughout their lives. Afterward [they go] to the dead. [Mat 15:19 NASB20] 19 "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, [acts of] adultery, [other] immoral sexual acts, thefts, false testimonies, [and] slanderous statements.

Mar 7:21-22 "For from within, out of the hearts of people, come the evil thoughts, [acts of] sexual immorality, thefts, murders, [acts of] adultery, 22 deeds of greed, wickedness, deceit, indecent behavior, envy, slander, pride, [and] foolishness.

[Heb 3:12 NASB20] 12 Take care, brothers [and sisters,] that there will not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.

[Jas 1:14-15 NASB20] 14 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. 15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it has run its course, brings forth death.

[Act 17:10-11 NASB20] 10 The brothers immediately sent <u>Paul</u> and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 <u>Now</u> these people were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily [to see] whether these things were so.

Job 5:2 For anger kills a fool, and jealousy slays the gullible. HCSB

Prov 9:13 The woman Folly is rowdy; she is gullible and knows nothing. HCSB Prov 14:18 The inexperienced inherit foolishness, but the sensible are crowned with knowledge. HCSB  $\,$ 

1 Tim 4:7 But reject those myths fit only for the godless and gullible, and train yourself for godliness. NET

2 Tim 3:6ToolsFor some of these are people who creep into houses, and take captive gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts,

Source: https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/words/Gullible

[1Ti 1:4 NASB20] 4 nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to useless speculation rather than [advance] the plan of God, which is by faith, [so I urge you now.]

[1Ti 6:20 NASB20] 20 Timothy, protect what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly, empty chatter and the opposing arguments of what is falsely called "knowledge"--

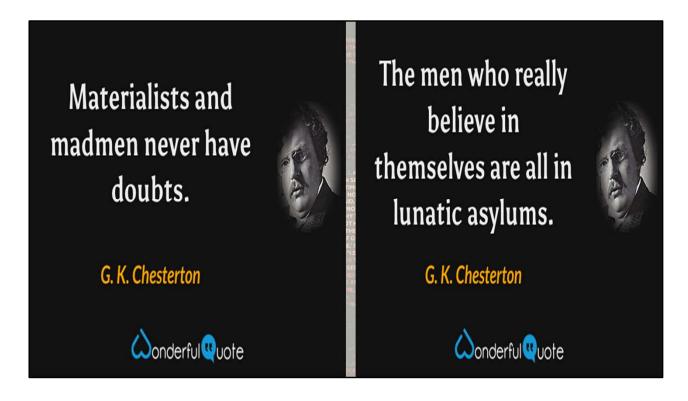
[2Ti 2:16, 23 NASB20] 16 But avoid worldly [and] empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness, ... 23 But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels.

[2Ti 4:4 NASB20] 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

[Tit  $1:14\ NASB20$ ]  $14\ not\ paying\ attention\ to\ Jewish\ myths\ and\ commandments\ of\ men\ who\ turn\ away\ from\ the\ truth.$ 

[Tit 3:9 NASB20] 9 But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law, for they are useless and worthless.

[Heb 5:14 NASB20] 14 But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to distinguish between good and evil.



When Doubt Can Help You: It's Too Bad Christians Have Given It a Bad Name CT

Are doubts ever wrong? Not if they are doubts about ourselves, our misunderstandings of His word, our misled teachings...

Didn't doubt of our sinful world view lead us to true faith? Not when those doubts are about a Christless philosophy that is failing, thats called awakening!

Wasn't it overly self-confident Pharisees who couldn't see Jesus for who He was?

Not when its doubts of our own righteousness and readiness for heaven!

The problem with doubt is that few really Seek God for the answers, we merely wander in our indecision like a Deer in headlights waiting for some additional revelation instead of exhausting the revelation we already have!

Atheists are the Most confident people, they have No doubts about your stupidity, they are Missionaries for their emptiness. The New Atheists!

# Dawning at dusk, slow to believe

- Linens lying, face cloth folded
- Mary crying
- Jesus said to her, "Stop clinging to Me"
- The doors were shut (locked) . . . Peace to you!
- Written so that you may believe! 20:31

[Jhn 20:19 Now when **it was evening on that day**, the **first [day] of the week**, and when **the doors were shut** where the **disciples were [together] due to fear of the Jews**, Jesus came and stood in their midst, and said to them, "Peace [be] to you."

[Jhn 20:5-7, 17 NASB20] 5 and he stooped to look [in,] and saw the linen wrappings lying [there;] however he did not go in. 6 So Simon Peter also came, following him, and he entered the tomb; and he looked at the linen wrappings lying [there,] 7 and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings but folded up in a place by itself. ... 17 Jesus said to her, "Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God."

[Jhn 20:11, 16-17 NASB20] 11 But Mary was standing outside the tomb, weeping; so as she wept, she stooped to look into the tomb; ... 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means, Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, "Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God."



## Peace b2u

- Why did Jesus wait until now?
- How did He get into a locked room? Response?
- Peace! Shalom! Phil 4
- "He breathed on them and \*said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."
- Why did He appear when only Thomas wasn't?

#### Jeru**shalom!**

[Jhn 14:27 ESV] 27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. [Jhn 16:33 ESV] 33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

[Jhn 20:19 NASB20] 19 Now when it was evening on that day, the first [day] of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were [together] due to fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst, and said to them, "Peace [be] to you." [Jhn 20:30 NASB20] 30 So then, many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

[Jhn 20:31 NASB20] 31 but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that by believing you may have life in His name.

[Jhn 20:22 NASB20] 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

[**Gen 2:7** NASB20] 7 Then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground, **and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living person**. [Job 33:4 NASB20] 4 "The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

[Psa 33:6 NASB20] 6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their lights.

[Eze 37:9 NASB20] 9 Then He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'The Lord GOD says this: "Come from the four winds, breath, and breathe on these slain, so that they come to life."'"

[Act 2:4, 38 NASB20] 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with different tongues, as the Spirit was giving them [the ability] to speak out. ... 38 Peter [said] to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

[Act 19:2 NASB20] 2 He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they [said] to him, "On the contrary, we have not even heard if there is a Holy Spirit."

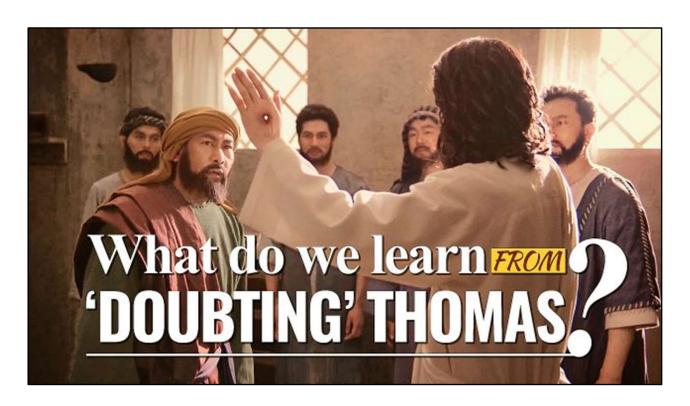
[Gal 3:2 NASB20] 2 This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

[Jhn 20:30 NASB20] 30 So then, many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

[Phl 1:2 NASB20] 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

[Phl 4:7, 9 NASB20] 7 And **the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension**, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. ... 9 As for the things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

[Jhn 20:11, 23 NASB20] 11 But Mary was standing outside the tomb, weeping; so as she wept, she stooped to look into the tomb; ... 23 "**If you forgive the sins of any, [their sins] have been forgiven them**; if you retain the [sins] of any, they have been retained."



Are we humble enough to be blessed by the Lord using our shortcomings and failures to help others NOT make similar mistakes or have to learn the hard way?

Ask Jonah Ask Abraham Ask David Ask Peter and his denials...

## "Unless I see . . . I will not believe."

- **Tear** vs. Faith
- Resentment breeds doubt Thomas missed out
- Live by faith, not by sight 2 Cor 5:7, Heb 11
- I Will <u>NOT</u> Believe (<u>Un</u>belief is a sin!, Heb 3-4)
- "My Lord and my God!"

The disciples feared what others thought and suffering. Fear weakens our clearer vision and fills our mind with what isn't there

Thomas felt slighted, fomo, not included with the other saints

The Disciples didn't believe until they saw and even then struggled! Yet Jesus sent them to tell others

As the evidence grew, Thomas demanded even more. Thomas demands Jesus to prove Himself! Opposite is true!

Thomas didn't actually touch Jesus hands/side. He evidences repentance and faith in His spoken confession

Notice he leans into disbelief until proven otherwise! Innocent until proven guilty or guilty until proven innocent?

Jhn 20:19 Now when it was evening on that day, the first [day] of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were [together] **due to fear of the Jews**, Jesus came and stood in their midst, and said to them, "Peace [be] to you."

[Jhn 20:22 NASB20] 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

[Jhn 20:24-29 NASB20] 24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, who was called Didymus,

was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." 26 Eight days later His disciples were again inside, and Thomas [was] with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace [be] to you." 27 Then He said to Thomas, "Place your finger here, and see My hands; and take your hand and put it into My side; and do not continue in disbelief, but [be] a believer." 28 Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you [now] believed? Blessed [are] they who did not see, and [yet] believed."

**Missing out!** [Gen 3:4-5 NASB20] 4 The serpent said to the woman, "You certainly will not die! 5 "For **God knows that on the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will become like <b>God**, knowing good and evil."

[2Co 5:7 NASB20] 7 for we walk by faith, not by sight— previous verses: Heaven, Holy Spirit, Inspires **courage vs,6 and 7** 

[Heb 3:12-13, 15 NASB20] 12 Take care, brothers [and sisters,] that there will not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. 13 But encourage one another every day, as long as it is [still] called "today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ... 15 while it is said, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME."

[Mar 9:24 NASB20] 24 Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, "I do believe; help my unbelief!"



# You doubt "when" ...

- **■** When you worry . . .
- **1** When you choose sin over Gods ways
- When you haven't studied God's Word well
- When you don't trust God's timing or will

When you neglect the fellowship of the saints When you are not a gospel driven giver



### Gods word will dispel/displace the questions and disbelief!

[Rom 10:17 NASB20] 17 So faith [comes] from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

[Rom 10:14 NASB20] 14 How then are they to call on Him in whom they have not believed? How are they to believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher?

[Rom 1:16 NASB20] 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
[Luk 16:29-31 NASB20] 29 "But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' 30 "But he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!' 31 "But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'"
[1Co 1:18-19 NASB20] 18 For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written: "I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE UNDERSTANDING OF THOSE WHO HAVE UNDERSTANDING, I WILL CONFOUND."

[1Th 2:13 NASB20] 13 For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted [it] not [as] the word of [mere] men, but as what it really is, the word of God, which also is at work in you

who believe.

[1Pe 2:2 NASB20] 2 and like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,

[Jer 23:28-29 NASB20] 28 "The prophet who has a dream may report [his] dream, but let him who has My word speak My word truthfully. What does straw have [in common] with grain?" declares the LORD. 29 "Is My word not like fire?" declares the LORD, "and like a hammer [which] shatters a rock?

[Heb 4:12-13 NASB20] 12 For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him to whom we must answer.

## Lord, help my unbelief!

- Study scripture objectively and hungrily
- Believe God over your feelings, disbelieve self
- Humbly receive the implanted word, meditate!
- Start practicing courageous obedience / reliance

[Mar 9:24 NASB20] 24 Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, "I do believe: help my unbelief!"

Listen to and learn from others whose faith has grown Seek wise counsel and sharpen your understanding of faith, others can sometimes help you to see the weakness or misunderstandings of your flawed faith

[Pro 3:5 NASB20] 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding.

[2Co 4:18 NASB20] 18 while **we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen**; for the things which are seen are **temporal**, but the things which are not seen are **eternal**.

Trust the loving God – Its personal! Not so much material

[Jas 1:21 NASB20] 21 Therefore, ridding [yourselves] of all filthiness and [all] that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

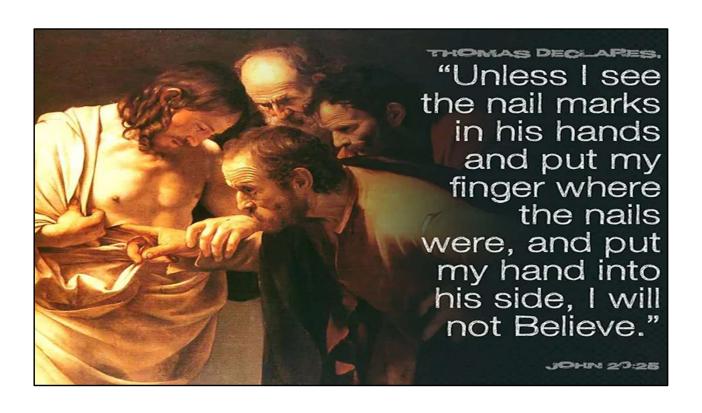
[Act 17:11 NIV] 11 Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

#### John the Baptist doubted

[Mat 11:1-6 NASB20] 1 When Jesus had finished giving instructions to His twelve disciples, He went on from there to teach and preach in their cities. 2 Now [while] in prison, John heard about the works of Christ, and he sent [word] by his disciples, 3 and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or are we to look for someone else?" 4 Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and report to John what you hear and see: 5 [those who are] BLIND RECEIVE SIGHT and [those who] limp walk, [those] with leprosy are cleansed and [those who are] deaf hear, [the] dead are raised, and [the] POOR HAVE THE GOSPEL PREACHED TO THEM. 6 "And blessed is any person who does not take offense at Me."

# Lord, help my unbelief!

- Start practicing courageous obedience / reliance
- See the invisible believing is seeing!
- Trust the loving God who gave His Son for you!



### We Believe because He Loves us!

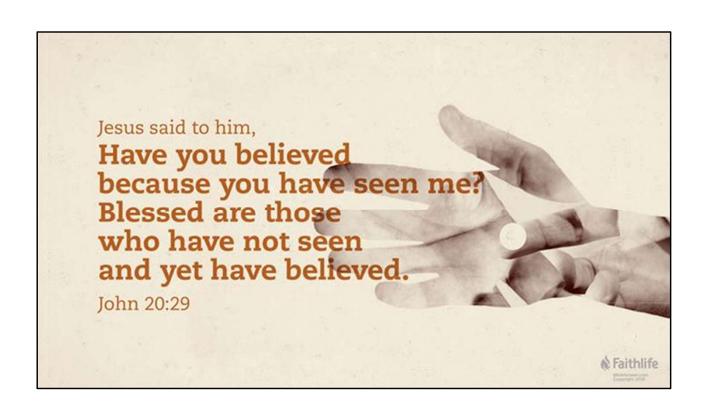
■ 1 Peter 1:8 - and though you have not seen
Him, you love Him, and though you do not see
Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice
with joy inexpressible and full of glory

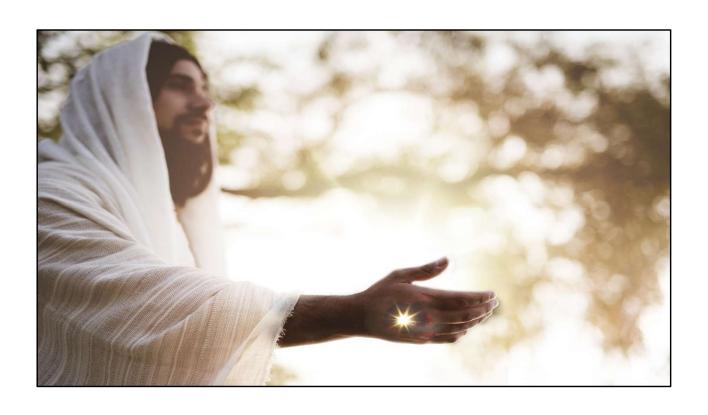
[1Pe 1:8 NASB20] 8 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

[Jhn 20:30-31 NASB20] 30 So then, **many other signs Jesus also performed** in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that by believing you may have life in His name.

## We Believe because He Loves us!

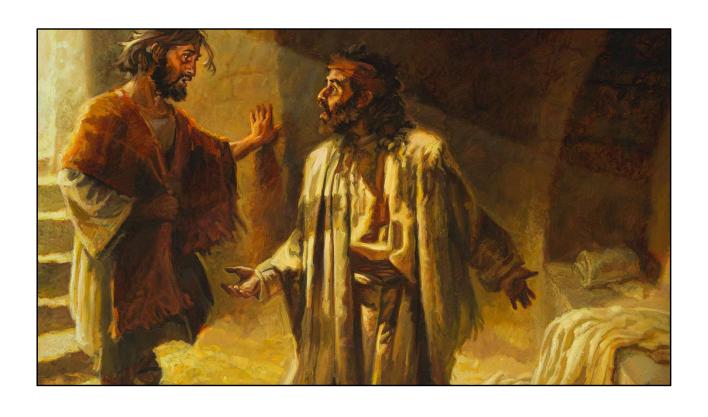
- Our faith is Not blind, it's well informed yet is invested in a person instead of facts! Trust Jesus!
- And that by believing you may have life in His name.





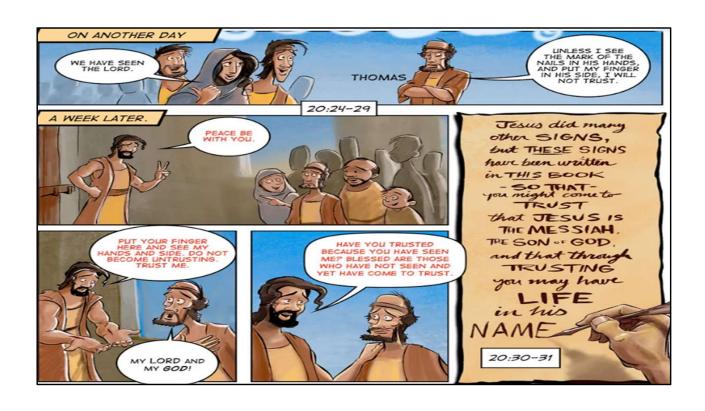


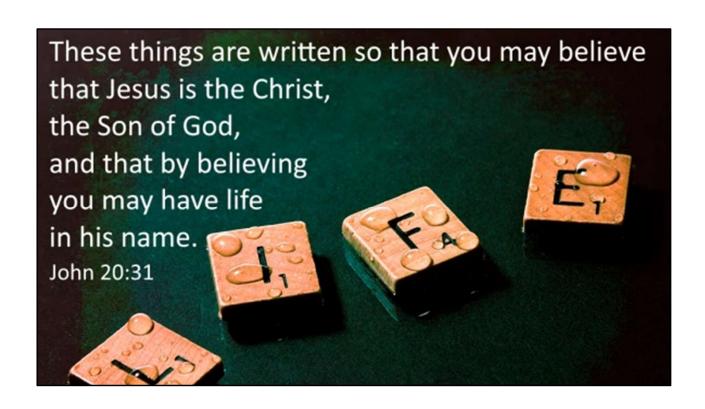










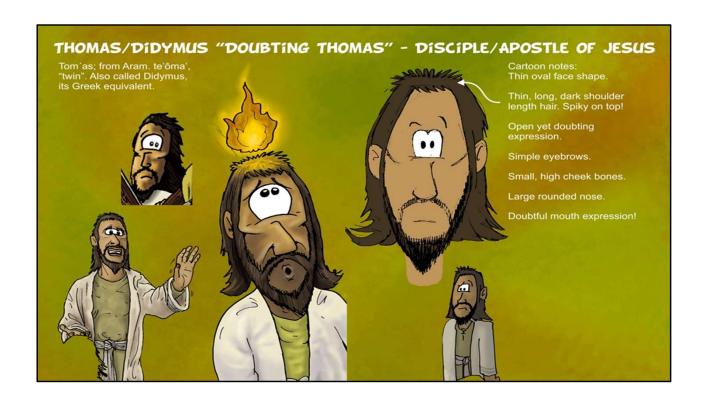


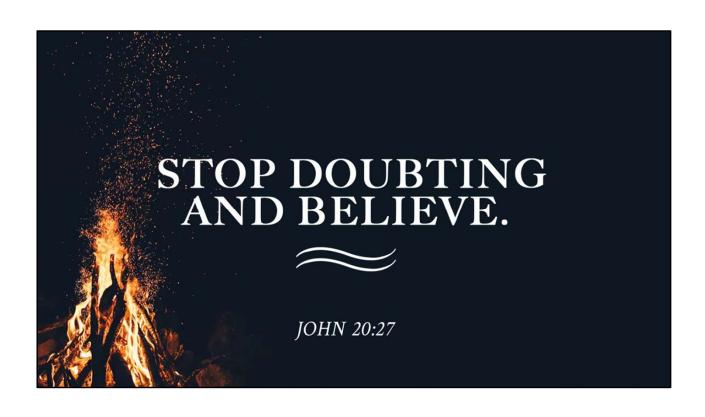




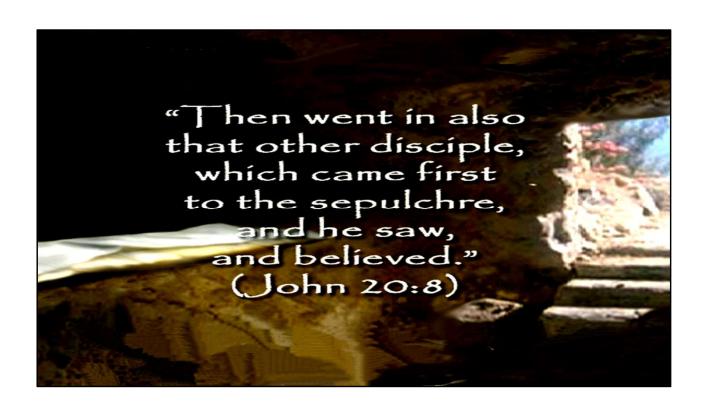
In But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. [12] And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. [13] They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." [14] Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. [15] Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."

JOHN 20:11-15









So then, many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that

Jesus is the Christ,

the Son of God; and that by believing you may have life

in His name.