

FROM DOUBT TO BELIEF

John 20:24-31

INTRODUCTION:

Thomas, also called Didymus which means “twin,” was one of the twelve Apostles of Christ. He is also known as “Doubting Thomas” because he doubted Christ’s resurrection when first told of it by the other ten Apostles (Judas died before Christ resurrection). Later, Thomas confessed his faith upon seeing Christ’s crucifixion wounds. He addressed Jesus as, “My Lord and My God” (John 20:28).

Based on the subject of this message – From Doubt to Belief, we will study:

- I. The Absence of Thomas (v. 24)**
 - A. Thomas was not present at Christ’s first appearance (Day of Resurrection) to the Disciples (John 20:18-19).
 - B. **According to Warren Wiersbe, “Don’t miss the Lord!”** (Heb 10:25)

- II. The Doubtfulness of Thomas (v. 25)**
 - A. Sometime later, when Thomas was with the other ten Disciples, they told him – “We have seen the Lord” – The Risen Savior.
 - B. Thomas had doubt about the Resurrected Savior.
 - C. Thomas refused to believe that Christ had risen from the dead; He wanted proof – “Except I see ...”

- III. The Appearance of Christ (vv. 26-27)**
 - A. **“And After Eight Days”** – This is the first/next Sunday following the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.
 - B. Thomas was with the other Disciples when Christ came into the room and stood among them.
 - C. Christ showed Thomas what He showed the other Disciples (when Thomas was absent) – His crucifixion wounds – nail prints and pierced side.
 - D. Jesus told Thomas – **“Be not faithless** (without Christ, no hope, unbelieving) **But Believing”** (v. 27) – He is the Risen Christ.

- IV. The Strong Confession of Thomas (v. 28)**
 - A. **Thomas called Jesus His Lord and His God** (v. 28; John 8:58, 10:30).
 - B. **Jesus expects an open and public confession of Him as Lord and God** (Matt 10:32; 1 John 4:15).

- V. A Great Lesson for the Church (v. 29)**
 - A. **Believe without having to see evidence and proof** (John 20:29).
 - B. **Believe because of God’s love and care** (Rom 5:8).
 - C. **Believe because of Christ’s sacrifice** (1 Cor 15:3; 2 Cor 5:21)
 - D. **The Resurrection Appearances**

CONCLUSION:

A. He Lives

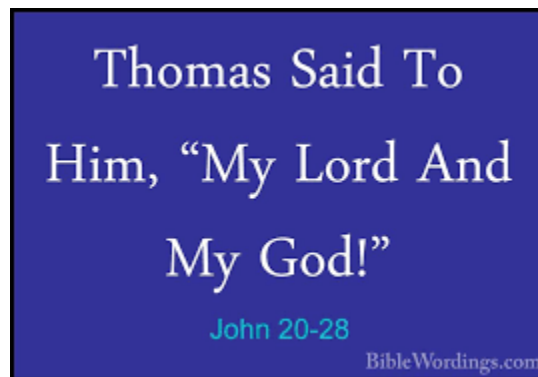
I serve a risen Saviour, He's in the world today;
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,
And just the time I need Him He's always near.
He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me Along life's narrow way.
He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart!

B. When we Believe in Christ, we are accepting His payment for our sins.

C. Do you Believe in Christ? Have you accepted Him as your Lord and Savior? If so, the Blessings of Heaven await you.

D. If not, declare today as the day of Salvation – Tomorrow is not guaranteed.

E. Romans Road to Salvation (Rom 3:10, 23; 5:8; 10:9, 13)



From the Preaching Ministry of:
Pastor Carl Bennett
Corinth Christian Fellowship
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"... the word of our God shall stand for ever" (Isa 40:8).