



- John 20

**“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”**

**John 11:25-26**

- John 11:25-26 (ESV) 25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”



- Jesus is crucified
- It is finished!
- Salvation is accomplished
- But the story, praise God, doesn't end there.



- Jesus' disciple take him from the cross
  - Roman soldiers had made sure he was dead.
  - Jesus' disciples would not have buried him unless they knew he was dead



- Place Jesus in tomb, sealed and guarded by soldiers.
- three days pass



- 1 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.
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- 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” 3 So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. 4 Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in.
- 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb.



- He saw the linen cloths lying there, 7 and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples went back to their homes.





- Not grave robbers.
- Not stolen by disciples.
- Believed? What?
  - Believed Mary's statement that Jesus' taken from tomb, don't know where he is.



- The Prophecies: Psalm 16; witnesses
  - Acts 2:22-32 (ESV) 22 “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— 23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. 24 God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. 25 For David says concerning him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; 26 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. 27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. 28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ 29 “Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, 31 he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. 32 **This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.**



- Where did the body go?
- What does it mean to me?
- John carefully chooses three of many of the appearances of Jesus to teach us...



- Mary (11-18)



- Angels/men in white sitting at head and foot of Jesus' burial place.
  - Why weeping?
- M: "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.”
- 16 Jesus said to her, “Mary.”
- She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher).



- 17 Jesus said to her, “Do not cling 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, to my God and your God.”
- 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “**I have seen the Lord**”—and that he had said these things to her.



- Mary is not expecting Jesus to be alive.
  - Saw Him die. Saw him dead.
  - Doesn't know where body is... only conclusion, someone moved it.
- Mary once recognizing Jesus, clings to him.
  - He had died... she'd lost him.
  - Now alive, doesn't want to let him go.
  - Jesus comforts, don't cling,
- I've seen the Lord





- Disciples (19-23)



- 19 On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” 20 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were **glad** when they **saw the Lord**. 21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”



- Doors locked, Jesus appears
- Glad ... saw the Lord!
  - John 16:16: "A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me."



- John 16:20: Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy.
- John 16:22: So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.



- Receive the Holy Spirit
  - John 14:26: But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.



- John 16:7-11 (ESV) 7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. 8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.



- John 16:12-15 (ESV) 12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.



- Forgive Sins
  - Acts 2:38: And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.





- Acts 10:43: To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”
- Acts 13:38-39: Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, 39 and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.



- Thomas (24-29)
  - 24 Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, “**We have seen the Lord.**” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, **I will never believe.**”



- 26 Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the **doors were locked**, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. **Do not disbelieve, but believe.**” 28 Thomas answered him, “**My Lord and my God!**” 29 Jesus said to him, “**Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**”
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“We have seen the Lord.”

Thomas: “Unless I see ... place finger ... NEVER BELIEVE”

What does Thomas want?

Absolute empirical proof.

The witness of others was not sufficient.

Elevated himself to the ultimate judge, requires God to meet his standard of proof.



Resurrection needs good/great proof.

Belief needs evidence... (Hebrews 11:1)

Prophecy

Witnesses (1 Corinthians 15)



What will it take for you to believe?

Say it plainly and clearly: be precise.

Be honest in examination of evidence.

Don't disbelieve just to disbelieve.

Thomas, though, offered to touch, didn't.

Thomas saw ... believed.

You and I cannot see with our eyes.

Will you believe the witnesses?



- What are we to learn from John's Witnesses?



- Jesus really is raised from the dead. He is alive!
  - They all thought he was dead, did not expect him to be alive.
  - They saw the Lord! (not in the tomb, but alive!) (18, 20, 25, Thomas)
  - Implication is that they understand the prophecies (at least soon).





- Romans 1:1-6 (ESV) 1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, 3 concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4 and was declared to be the **Son of God** in **power** according to the Spirit of holiness **by his resurrection from the dead**, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, 6 including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,



- Believing Leads to Life
  - John 14:19: (ESV) Because I live, you also will live.
  - 30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are 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.
- 1 Corinthians 6:14: And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power.



- Romans 4:22-25 (ESV) 22 That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” 23 But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, 24 but for ours also. **It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord**, 25 who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our **justification**.



- Romans 5:10-11 (ESV) 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, **now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.** 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received **reconciliation.**



- Romans 6:4 (ESV) 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in **newness of life**.



- Romans 8:11 (ESV) 11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also **give life to your mortal bodies** through his Spirit who dwells in you.



- Reconciled Relationship with Jesus
  - Romans 1:6 including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,
  - 17 Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me
  - 17 go to my brothers
  - 28 Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

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**John 11:25-26**

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**We implore you on  
behalf of Christ,  
be reconciled to God.**

**2 Corinthians 5:20**

Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



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## We Have Seen the Lord

John 20

Synopsis: John establishes that the tomb of Jesus is empty, then uses the experiences of Jesus with Mary, the disciple, and Thomas to teach us that Jesus is alive, that by believing in Him we can have life and become his brothers.

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**"Let all that you do be done with love."**