

Easter / March 31, 2024 Worship Service Pastor Bruce Adrian WeAreLifeBridge.com

Doubters Welcome

John 20:24-31

"Doubting Thomas"

One of the greatest <u>DOUBTERS</u> of the Resurrection became one of the greatest <u>BELIEVERS</u> in the Risen Savior.

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." John 20:25

Trusting Jesus with Your Doubts

1. Belief in the Risen Savior Is a CHOICE!

Thomas' Doubt

- Thomas doubted because his <u>EXPECTATIONS</u> of Jesus were shattered with Jesus' death.
- > Thomas doubted because he MISSED OUT on Jesus' first appearance to the other disciples (v. 24).
- Thomas doubted because he <u>SET THE TERMS</u> for his belief in Jesus' resurrection (v. 25).

2. Belief in the Risen Savior Is a GIFT!

Jesus' Grace

- Jesus gave Thomas the <u>EVIDENCE</u> he demanded, inviting him to see for himself that He was alive (v. 26-27).
- Jesus gave Thomas the <u>ENCOURAGEMENT</u> he needed, telling him to stop disbelieving and believe (v. 27).

Thomas' Belief

- Thomas WORSHIPPED Jesus, confessing His deity as Lord and God (v. 28).
- Thomas <u>STOPPED</u> demanding an explanation and submitted to revelation of Jesus as His Lord and God (v. 28).

3. Belief in the Risen Savior Is a BLESSING!

Blessing of Belief

You are <u>BLESSED</u> to believe the truth of Jesus without seeing the resurrected body of Jesus (v. 29-31).

Are You Struggling with Doubt?

Doubters are WELCOME at the empty tomb of the Risen Savior.

Believing in Jesus for Eternal Life

"Very truly I tell you, whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life." John 5:24

"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26

If you're ready to respond, sincerely pray: "Dear Jesus, I know that I'm a sinner and I need Your forgiveness. I believe that You are the Savior who died to pay the penalty for my sin and then rose again. I want to turn from my sins and follow You as my Lord. Please forgive me of my sins and save me. I receive You by faith as my Savior and Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Did you pray to receive Christ as your Savior and Lord? We'd love to celebrate with you! Fill out the Connection Card and place in the offering box at Info Center. Thank You.

Pick up a free copy of the book *An Anchor for the Soul* at the Info Center.