THE GOD WHO NEVER GIVES UP JOHN 20-21 | ERIC SIMPSON | MARCH 31, 2024



"Christianity will go. It will vanish and shrink. I needn't argue about that; I know I'm right and I will be proved right. We're more popular than Jesus now. I don't know which will go first – rock & roll or Christianity. Jesus was all right, but his disciples were thick and ordinary. It's them twisting it that ruins it for me." – John Lennon, Aug 11, 1966

Mary Magdalene – in her sorrow

John 20:11-13

11 Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb 12 and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. 13 They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

John 20:14-16

14 At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. 15 He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary."

Thomas - in his doubt

John 20:24-25

24 Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

"To struggle with ones faith is often the surest sign we actually have one." – A.J. Swoboda

"Follow Jesus, and if you can find a better way than him, he would be the first to tell you to take it." – Dallas Willard

John 20:28
Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Peter – in his shame

Shame will tell you what you know is true, but it doesn't fully apply to you. Shame says there's nothing you can do to recover from what you have done.

It's your destiny, not your history, or your current reality, that are to be the grounds of your identity.

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