

I. Introduction and Review.

II. Don't Doubt. v. 24-25

- A. Don't miss out on the opportunities you have to meet with Jesus. v. 19-24
 - 1. Thomas was absent when Jesus appeared to the other ten disciples. v. 19-24
 - 2. Jesus still meets with His people. Mt. 18:20 28:28 Rev. 1:13 Eph. 2:17
 - 3. If you miss the meetings of God's people, you will lose a blessing. Heb. 10:25
 - 4. Just hearing about what the Lord has done is not the same as being there. v. 25a
- B. Your doubt is really unbelief. v. 25
 - 1. Thomas' skepticism was thorough. 16:16 11:1-34 Ps. 16:10 Is. 53:10-11 Mk. 8:3
 - 2. Don't feed your doubts.
- C. Unbelief makes you miserable. v. 24 I Co. 15:12
- D. Combat unbelief by drawing near to Jesus. Eph. 3:14ff Acts 2:42

III. Believe! v. 26-28

- A. Jesus gently leads Thomas to faith. v. 26-27
- B. The risen Christ has a real body. v. 27 1:14 Luke 24:39,42-43
- C. It is only through Jesus' atoning death that we have peace with God. Is. 53:5
1 Pet. 3:18 Rom. 4:25 2 Cor. 5:21
- D. Jesus is Lord and God, Who is worthy of your worship. v. 28
 - 1. The climactic confession of faith. 1:1-4,14 14:9 20:30-31
 - 2. Did Thomas realize what he was saying? 10:33 5:23 Co. 2:9 1:15-17 Ph. 2:10
I Co. 12:3 Ro. 10:9 Heb. 1:8-9 Ro. 9:5 Titus 2:13
 - 3. Jesus accepts Thomas' praise. Acts 10:26 14:11-15 3:12 Rev. 5:6-14
- E. Jesus transforms people from doubt to faith.

IV. If you believe, you are richly blessed. v. 29-31

- A. Thomas, as an apostle, was appointed as an *eyewitness* to the life, death and resurrection of Christ. v. 29a I Jn. 1:1-4 II Pe. 1:16 Acts 1:3 2:32 3:15 I Co. 15:3-7
- B. Now we walk by faith and not by sight. v. 29b-31 II Co. 5:7
 - 1. Jesus explains the transition which must take place when He ascends. v. 17
17:20 I Pet. 1:8 Heb. 11:1
 - 2. Your faith is the purpose of John's gospel. v. 30-31
- C. If you disbelieve, it is not due to a lack of evidence. 6:36 10:38 12:37 Luke 16:27-31
Mt. 13:14-16
- D. Faith in Christ brings joy and life. v. 29b,31b

V. Concluding Applications: What is your response to the risen Christ?