

# Written that you might believe!

John 20:24 But **Thomas**, one of the twelve, called Didymus, **was not with them when Jesus came.** 25 **The other disciples therefore said unto him,** We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, **I will not believe.** 26 And **after eight days** again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: *then* came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, *Peace be* unto you. 27 **Then saith he to Thomas,** Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust *it* into my side: and **be not faithless, but believing.** 28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, **My Lord and my God.** 29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed *are* they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

30 And **many other signs truly did Jesus** in the presence of his disciples, which are **not written in this book:** 31 But **these are written, that ye might believe**

that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

1. Seeking the missing and sharing what God is doing! **24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples therefore said unto him,** We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, **I will not believe.**
  - a. Thomas had missed out on being at the meeting on Sunday evening when Jesus showed up
  - b. The other disciples that were in the meeting didn't get a critical attitude about Thomas
  - c. Instead they go tell Thomas what happened
  - d. We should notice when our brothers and sisters are not in service and share what God is doing with them
  - e. Seek them out. Love them. Let them know that they were missed.
  - f. Thomas still doubts but that is his problem not the problem of the other disciples

g. These gloomy, easily discouraged people need to be in fellowship more than most. The longer they are left to their fear and doubts the colder they will become

2. Only Jesus can convince Thomas **26** And **after eight days** again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: *then* came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace *be* unto you. **27** **Then saith he to Thomas,** Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust *it* into my side: and **be not faithless, but believing.** **28** And Thomas answered and said unto him, **My Lord and my God.**

- a. The disciples could go and tell Thomas. They could be excited witnesses but that is all they can do!
- b. It is Jesus who will convince Thomas
- c. Jesus showed up and called Thomas by name. He challenged him to do exactly what he said he would have to do to believe
- d. The Lord Jesus challenges him not to be faithless but believing
  - i. His doubt was that he lacked faith

- ii. He is challenged to believe **Hebrews 11:6** **But without faith *it is impossible to please him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**
  - e. Philip believes and calls Him my Lord and my God. Apparently he didn't even need to touch the wounds. He just knew when he saw Jesus
  - f. You can't win people to Christ. You can and should witness but it is the Lord Himself who will convict and draw to Himself
  - g. Notice Philip calls him his Lord or king, sovereign and his God. Signs of complete surrender and obedience
3. The Satisfied Faith is a blessed faith **29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed *are* they that have not seen, and *yet* have believed.**
- a. Thomas said that he would have to see and touch to believe.
    - i. That is so much like people today
    - ii. Jesus however says that those that have not seen and still believe are blessed

- b. A satisfied faith trusts what God has given us in His Word without needing anything more
  - c. It seems so many want God to do something to prove that He is real. They say they need more.
    - i. They want a vision. Usually it is our vanity that causes us to want such experiences
    - ii. Some want to see miracles or a special act of God
    - iii. Some want a special manifestation of the Holy Spirit
    - iv. We often want success, numbers, blessings to prove that God is real and true
4. Why was the book of John written **30 And many other signs truly did Jesus** in the presence of his disciples, which are **not written in this book: 31 But these are written, that ye might believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.
- a. Jesus did many things that are not included in the gospel of John
  - b. John on purpose chose he stories, the miracles, the things that Jesus did so that we might believe

- c. We were to see from His book that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and that believing we might have life through His name
- d. Almost every chapter of John has the testimony of someone believing or proclaiming that Jesus is the Son of God. **John 1:29 Behold the Lamb of God** for example
- e. Have you ever wondered why the gospels tell such different stories.
  - i. Matthew was written primarily for Jesus. It presents Jesus as the King of Israel, the Messiah
  - ii. Mark was written primarily for the Romans, Gentle Christians there and presents Jesus as a Suffering Servant
  - iii. Luke was written for Gentiles and presents Jesus as a man.
- f. The question is has the book of John accomplished its purpose in your life. **30 And many other signs truly did Jesus** in the presence of his disciples, which are **not written in this book: 31 But these are written, that ye might believe** that Jesus is the Christ,

the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

- i. Have you believed in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour
- ii. Do you believe that He was more than a man
- iii. Do you believe that He was God in human flesh
- iv. Do you believe He was and is the Christ, the Sent One
- v. Do you have eternal life
- vi. Has your faith in God and His Word grown through this study of the book of John
- vii. How has the growth affected the way you live, the way you think, the way you talk, the way you act