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“Do Not Be Faithless”

Scriptures: John 20:24-29

(John 20:24-29)

24 Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples therefore said to him, “We have seen the Lord.” So he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.” 26 And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “Peace to you!” 27 Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.” 28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

(JOHN 20:27)

Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”

INTRODUCTION

Evidences of Jesus’ Resurrection in the 4 Gospels:

- The broken Roman Seal

(Matthew 27:66)

“So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.”

- The empty tomb

(Luke 24:1-3)

Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. 2 But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. 3 Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

- The stone at the tomb removed

(Mark 16:4)

“But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away – for it was very large.”

- The Roman guards

(Matthew 28:4,12-14)

4 And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. 12 When they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, 13 saying, “Tell them, ‘His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.’ 14 And if this comes to the governor’s ears, we will appease him and make you secure.”

- The grave clothes left behind

(Luke 24:12)

“But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; and stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying by themselves; and he departed, marveling to himself at what had happened.”

- More than 500 saw Him

(1 Corinthians 15:5-7)

“5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. 6 After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. 7 After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.”

WHAT CAUSES ONE TO BE FAITHLESS

- When you forsake the Lord

(Matthew 26:56)

“But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.”

- When we withdraw from the other disciples or followers of Christ

(John 20:24)

“Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came”

(Hebrews 10:25)

“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

CONSIDER THOMAS

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ARE FAITHLESS?

- We are not blessed

(Hebrews 11:6)

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

(John 15:7)

Jesus said, “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

(Romans 10:17)

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

- We live a carnal life

(Galatians 5:19-20)

“19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,”

(John 20:25)

“He said, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”)

- We have a false picture of Christ

(John 20:26-28)

“26 And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “Peace to you!” 27 Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.” 28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

(John 20:27)

“Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”

(John 20:28)

“And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”

CONCLUSION – THE LESSON TO LEARN

(John 20:29)

Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”