

**Sermon Title: *“Belief Brings Blessing”***

**Scripture: John 20:24-31**

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**INTRODUCTION**

Note: Thomas is not an example of honest doubt but of arrogant \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1st Post-Resurrection Appearance to Mary Magdalene: Relationships have Changed!

2nd Post-Resurrection Appearance to the Disciples: Continue My Mission!

3rd Post-Resurrection Appearance to Thomas: Belief Brings Blessing!

**I. ARROGANT UNBELIEF: DEPICTED AND DEFEATED**

**A. Arrogant Unbelief Depicted (John 20:24-25)**

Note: Thomas was something of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

***John 11:16 - “Let us also go, that we may die with Him.”***

***John 14:4-5 - “And you know the way to where I am going. Thomas said to Him, ‘Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?’”***

Note: Thomas responds in defiant and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ unbelief!

***Matthew 4:7 - “…it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”***

Note: God is not opposed to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ questions, but God is opposed to defiant, foolish unbelief!

***Mark 9:21-24 - “And Jesus asked his father, ‘How long has this been happening to him?’ And he said, ‘From childhood. And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.’ And Jesus said to him, ‘If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.’ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, ‘I believe; help my unbelief!’”***

***1 Thessalonians 5:14 - “And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.”***

**B. Arrogant Unbelief Defeated (John 20:26-31)**

Note: Everything that Jesus says to Thomas in verse 27 is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Note: Every command that Jesus gives is in direct \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to Thomas’ demands.

Note: Jesus demonstrates perfect kindness, grace, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with Thomas.

 ***Revelation 2:2; 2:9; 2:13; 2:19; 3:1; 3:8; 3:15 -***

Note: Jesus does not correct Thomas; He rather \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that He is Lord and God.

Note: We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ not because we see Him physically but because we, by faith, see Him and know Him in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Scripture!

 ***1 Peter 1:8-9; Romans 10:17 -***

BELIEF BRINGS BLESSING…

***John 1:12 - “But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.”***

***John 3:16 - “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”***

***John 3:36 - “Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.”***

***John 6:35 - “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst.”***

***John 6:40 - “For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”***

***Romans 10:13 - “For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”***

**Take Home Questions for Further Study & Reflection & Application…**

1. What are some good reasons to go to church? What are the best reasons to go to church?
2. What were Thomas’ list of demands that must be met before he would believe? Have you ever known someone like Thomas that had a similar list of demands?
3. What’s the different between defiant unbelief and someone with honest questions? What’s the difference between John 20:25 and Mark 9:24?
4. How does Jesus demonstrate perfect knowledge (omniscience) to Thomas?
5. How does Jesus demonstrate grace, kindness, and patience with Thomas?
6. We don’t physically see Jesus right now. How can we believe in Him? What is John’s answer?
7. What are the “blessings” that come from belief/faith in Jesus?