



The Recognition of Jesus

John 20:24-29

Guest Speaker: Dr. Steve Washburn

(John 20:24-29) But one of the Twelve, Thomas (called "Twin"), was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "If I don't see the mark of the nails in His hands, put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will never believe!" After eight days His disciples were indoors again, and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace to you!" Then He Said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and observe My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Don't be an unbeliever, but a believer." Thomas responded to Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus Said, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed. Those who believe without seeing are blessed."

Matthew 1:23 – "Immanuel – God with us"

John 1:1 - "The Word was God"

Titus 2:13 "our God and Savior Jesus"

2 Peter 1:1 – "our God and Savior"

Author of Hebrews – Jesus is God.

Matthew 16:16 – (Peter) "the SON of the living God."

John 20:28 – (THOMAS) "My Lord and MY GOD!"

THE RECOGNITION OF JESUS

Truly recognizing Jesus as GOD will change us in pivotal ways.

1. We Will Become LEADERS

(John 11:7) "Let's go to Judea again."

(John 11:8) "Rabbi, just now the Jews tried to stone You, and You're going there again?"

(John 11:14-15) Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died. I'm glad for you that I wasn't there so that you may believe. But let's go to him."

(John 11:16) Then Thomas said to his fellow disciples, "Let's go so that we may DIE with Him."

a. We want to be courageous leaders for Christ.

(John 14:4) "You know the way to where I am going."

(John 14:5) "We don't know where You're going, so how can we know the way?"

(John 14:6) "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man comes to the Father except through Me."

b. We want to be clarifying leaders for Christ.

2. We Will Become BELIEVERS

a. Sometimes we can trust witnesses.

(John 20:19-20) In the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were gathered together with the doors locked because of their fear of the Jews. Then Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" Having said this, He showed them His hands and His side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

b. Usually we can trust friends.

c. We can ALWAYS trust Jesus.

3. We Will Become GUARANTEERS

a. Guarantee: an assurance that one's promise will be fulfilled.

b. We want to guarantee Jesus that we will always be there for Him.

4. We Will Become ADVENTURERS

a. Adventurer: taking an action without absolute assurance of the results.

(John 20:29) Jesus said, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed. Those who believe without seeing are blessed."

b. Thomas was an adventurer for Christ.

c. Are we adventurers for Christ?