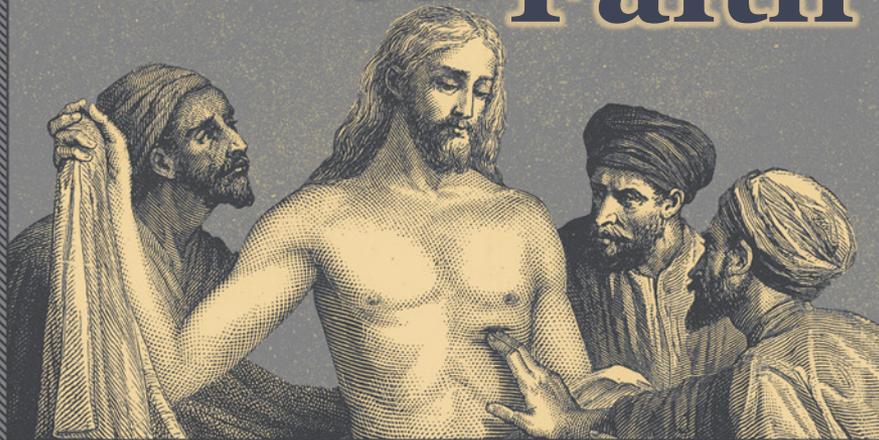


How *Doubting*
Thomas Helps
Increase
Our Faith



John 20.19-31

The Significance of the Resurrection:

It is of “first importance (1 Cor. 15.1-8):

- IF Jesus has risen, then our faith and salvation are validated (1 Cor. 15.16-19).
- IF Jesus has risen, then His sonship is validated (Rom. 1.4).
- IF Jesus has risen, then the claims that He made are validated (John 5.36; 10.25-38).

How *Doubting Thomas* Helps Increase Our Faith



* EVERYTHING hinges on the resurrection of Jesus.

John 20.19-31

Some Reasons We Believe Some Things:

- I was taught that it's true, so I believe it to be true.
- I have a feeling that it's true, so I believe it to be true.
- Others believe it to be true, so I believe it to be true.

Each of these reasons is subjective and is therefore a poor foundation for faith.

How *Doubting Thomas* Helps Increase Our Faith



* I have reliable evidence that it's true, so I believe it to be true.

John 20.19-31

The Importance of Eyewitness Testimony

- When considering events that occurred in the past, we must have a reliable record of those events.
 - Physical evidence is circumstantial at best and cannot tell the entire story.
- The Christian Faith is based on eyewitness testimony (Lk. 1.1-4; 1 Jn. 1.1-3; 2 Pet. 1.16).

How *Doubting Thomas* Helps Increase Our Faith



* Our faith in the resurrection hinges on the reliability of the eyewitness testimony.

John 20.19-31

How Does Thomas Help Our Faith?

- He was not gullible (Jn. 20.24-25).
- He required evidence and allowed the evidence to dictate his beliefs (Jn. 20.27-28).
- He was willing to lose everything, because he knew what he believed to be true. (Jn. 11.16 ; Acts 5.18, 29, 40; 8.1).

How *Doubting*
Thomas Helps
Increase
Our Faith



* Thomas proves to be a reliable witness and thus his testimony helps to increase our faith!

John 20.19-31



**“...these are written so that you
may believe... and may have life.”**

John 20.31

**Why do you believe what you
believe?**