

“These Are Written”
John 20:30-31

Introduction:

1. Have You Ever Gotten A Book:
 - Or Even A Movie:
 - That You Wanted To Know:
 - How It Would End:
 - Before It Even Began?
 - I’m Sure I’m Not The Only One:
 - Who Is Guilty Of This!
 - Well - That Is What We Are Going To Do:
 - This Morning:
 - As We Begin Our Newest Sunday Morning:
 - Message Series:
 - Through The Gospel Of John!
2. We Are Going To:
 - Begin At The End! Or - At Least - Close To The End!
 - And - The Reason Is:
 - Because - Near The End:
 - The Writer Himself Reveals To Us The Very Reason:
 - He Wrote Another Gospel Account Of Jesus Christ - Even Though:
 - There Were Already Three Other Gospels:
 - In Circulation!
3. The Author Of This Book:
 - Had Something More To Say!
 - He Had More Material:
 - To Offer!
 - Even Though His Primary Purpose:
 - Was Still The Same:
 - As Matthew & Mark & Luke!
 - And So - In The Twentieth Chapter:
 - At The End Of The Account:
 - Where The Resurrected Jesus:
 - Confronts Thomas:
 - With All His Doubts:
 - The Apostle John States His Purpose:
 - Clearly & Concisely!
4. So - Let’s Turn Back There - To John 20:
 - And Read - Starting With:
 - 20:26-29 - “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. / 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. / And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. / Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: *blessed* are they that have not seen, and yet have believed!”
 - The Words That Jesus Spoke To Thomas:
 - Stirred John’s Heart So Much:
 - That - Even Though He Was One Of The:
 - “Sons Of Thunder” - He Became:
 - A New Man:
 - So That His Own Heart Became Tender And Soft:
 - Like Jesus’ Himself!
- And So - He Took Up His Pen:
 - To Write About:
 - How Others Could Be “Blessed!”
 - Like Thomas Was!
 - Like He Was!

- So That - Even Though:
 - **You** Have Never Seen Jesus:
 - With Your Own Eyes! And:
- Even Though:
 - **You** Have Never Heard Jesus:
 - With Your Own Ears!
- Yet - You Can Be Just As “Blessed!”
 - By Believing In:
 - Who Jesus Is!
 - What Jesus Did! And:
 - Why Jesus Came!

5. And So - John Adds These Personal Words:

- Of His Own Purpose:
 - In Writing This Gospel:
 - In 20:30-31 - “And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: / 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!”
- John Wants You:
 - To Find The Blessing:
 - Of Real Life:
 - Through Faith In:
 - Jesus Christ!
- And *John* Wants This For You:
 - Because *Jesus* Wants This For You!
 - The Great *Triune God* Wants This For You!
 - The Father, The Son, And The Holy Spirit!
 - After All - Isn’t This The Great Truth We Find:
 - In All Of Scripture?
- In The Old Testament:
 - Habbakuk 2:4 - We Are Told:
 - “The Just Shall Live By His Faith!”
 - And This Truth:
 - Is Repeated Throughout:
 - The New Testament As Well!
 - In Romans, Galatians, And Hebrews - Word For Word!

6. But John Tells Us:

- In Such Riveting Detail:
 - *Who* We Are To Believe:
 - And *Why*:
 - In Order To Receive:
 - God’s Blessing!
- And So - Starting In 20:30:
 - John First Points Us To:

1. ***The Great Signs Of Jesus!***

- 20:30 - “And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book!”
 - When John Picked Up His Pen:
 - He Knew That:
 - There Was More To Jesus’ Life:
 - Than He Could Ever:
 - Write On Paper!
 - And Not Just Him!
 - Later - In 21:25 - He Tells Us That:
 - “There are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written!”
 - And So - John Had To Be Selective:
 - In What He Chose To Include:
 - In His Gospel!

- But - His Choice:
 - Was Not A Choice Between:
 - The Wheat And The Chaff:
 - In Christ's Life!
 - Because:
 - All Of Jesus' Life:
 - Was Wheat! Wholesome Wheat!
 - After All:
 - Jesus Is The Bread Of Life!
- Nor Was - His Choice:
 - A Separation Of:
 - The Cream From The Milk:
 - Of Christ's Works!
 - Because:
 - All That Jesus Did - And:
 - All That Jesus Said:
 - Was Life-Giving Cream!
 - It Was The Best Of The Best!
 - And Many Of The Jews Even Agreed:
 - When They Remarkd That:
 - "He Hath Done All Things Well!" (Matthew 7:37)
 - So - John Had His Work Cut Out For Him!
 - Especially Because Of:
- The Greatness Of Jesus' Conduct:
 - In The Signs That He Did!
 - John Describes Them As - "Many" And "Other!"
 - "Many" Refers To:
 - The Sheer *Number* And Quantity:
 - Of Signs Jesus Did!
 - **So** Many & **Too** Many:
 - To Be Exhaustive In Any Published Work!
 - "Other" Refers To:
 - The *Nature*:
 - Of Those Signs!
 - That There Was Such A Variety Of Signs:
 - That Jesus Did:
 - To Confirm Who He Was!
 - But - A "Sign" Is Just That!
 - Its Something That:
 - Points Your Attention:
 - To Something Or Someone Else!
 - **IE:** When You Drive On A Highway - See A "Speed Limit" Sign - To Point You To Look At Your Speed! / Or When You Drive On A Country Road - See A "Turn" Sign - To Point You To Look Ahead!
 - But - The Signs John Gave Us In His Gospel:
 - Are To Point You To:
 - Who **Jesus** Is!
 - And So - All Throughout His Book:
 - He Offers Evidence:
 - That Proves The Claims:
 - Of Jesus Himself!
 - What Claims?
 - All Throughout John - We Also See:
- The Greatness In Jesus' Claims!
 - In 4:25-26 - Jesus Made The Claim:
 - That He Was The Messiah - The Christ:
 - The Anointed & Chosen One Of God:
 - Who Came To Redeem & Reign Over His People!

- When The Samaritan Woman Said Unto Him:
 - "I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things. / Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am He!"
 - Now - This Was Quite A Claim!
 - But, Could He Prove It & Confirmed It?
- In 9:35-37 - Jesus Made The Claim:
 - That He Was The Son Of God!
 - A Description - Not Just Of:
 - His Close Relationship:
 - With God!
 - But Even More:
 - A Description Of:
 - His Own Identity:
 - As God!
 - To The Man Born Blind - Whom He Healed:
 - When - "Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? / He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? / And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee!"
 - This Too Is A Major Claim!
 - But, Could He Prove & Confirm This As Well?
- In 12:46-47 - Jesus Made The Claim:
 - That He Was True To His Name - Jesus!
 - He Was The True Joshua:
 - The "God Who Saves!"
 - And He Came To Save:
 - The World!
 - "Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. / And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. / I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. / And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world!"
 - This Is Another Great Claim By Jesus!
 - But Is It True?
 - Could He Prove It & Confirm It?
 - Well - That's Where The "Signs" Of 20:30 Come In!
 - They All Confirm His Claims:
 - And Then Bring Us To Hear:
- The Greatness Of Jesus' Call!
 - Another Word For A "Signs" In John's Gospel Is:
 - "Miracles!"
 - Because They Were Things:
 - Only God Could Do:
 - To Prove Who Jesus Was!
 - Some Of The Signs Jesus Did:
 - Were His Miraculous Wonders!
 - John Records In The First 12 Chapters:
 - Seven Miracles:
 - Starting In Chapter 2 - When Jesus Turned Six Large Vessels Of Water Into Wine!
 - And - To One Of His Own Disciples:
 - Philip - Jesus Said - In 14:11:
 - "Believe Me!"
 - "Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake!"
 - Jesus Calls On Us To Believe Him:
 - And All Of His Claims:
 - Because Of His Wonders!
 - Some Of The Signs Jesus Did:

- Were His Miraculous Works!
 - His Father's Works - Which Were:
 - Works Of Righteousness!
 - Isn't It A Miracle For A Man:
 - To Do No Sin:
 - In This Fallen World?
- In 10:37-38 - Jesus Said:
 - "If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. / But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him!"
 - "Believe The Works!"
 - Jesus Said!
- Jesus Calls On Us To Believe Him:
 - And All Of His Claims:
 - Because Of His Works!
- Some Of The Signs Jesus Did:
 - Were His Miraculous Words!
 - Words That Only Jesus Could Bring!
 - In 8:46 - Jesus Asked:
 - "Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?"
 - Jesus Calls On Us To Believe Him:
 - And All Of His Claims:
 - Because Of His Words!
- And - Through These Signs - Given To Us:
 - In The Gospel Of John:
 - You **Can** Believe In:
 - The Claims Of Jesus Christ!
 - And Yet - There Are Even More Signs:
 - That Point Us To Jesus:
 - Than Anyone Could Ever Record!
 - 20:30 - "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book!"
 - And So - By The Signs That John *Did* Choose:
 - And *Did* Record - Under The Direction:
 - And Inspiration Of The Holy Spirit!
 - He Reveals To Us:

2. ***The Great Significance Of Jesus!***

- In 20:31 - "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!"
 - Why Did John Choose What He Chose?
 - And - Why Did John:
 - Write What He Wrote?
 - Of Course - The First & Obvious Answer Is:
 - For Preservation!
 - 20:31 - "But these are written!" - John Says!
 - He Wrote To Preserve His Own Eyewitness Testimony:
 - Of The Claims Of Jesus:
 - And The Confirmation:
 - Of Those Claims!
 - Later - In 21:24 - He Even Writes:
 - "This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true!"
 - As Jesus "Disciple" - John Was:
 - ***With*** Jesus:
 - And So He Could:
 - "Testify Of These Things!"
 - And Since He Was A ***Witness***:

- Of Jesus:
 - He Could Then:
 - **“Write** These Things!”
- And When He Wrote:
 - About Jesus:
 - His Words And Testimony:
 - Could Be Verified:
 - As **“True!”**
 - But - In Addition To Preservation:
 - There Were Two Other Key Reasons:
 - For John To Write This Gospel!
 - According To 20:31 - It Was:
- For Persuasion!
 - To Persuade You To Put Your Trust:
 - In Jesus!
 - 20:31a - “But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God!”
 - John Wrote:
 - With An Evangelistic Purpose!
 - He Wants People:
 - To Come To Faith:
 - In Jesus!
 - He Wants There To Be:
 - A “Turning Point” In Your Heart & Life:
 - That Is Decisive:
 - When It Comes To The Claims Of Jesus!
 - But - What Does It Take - And:
 - What Does It Mean:
 - To Believe?
 - To Believe:
 - Requires:
 - An Honest Consideration:
 - Of His Claims:
 - In Your Mind!
 - This Is Why:
 - John & So Many Others:
 - Wrote Down:
 - The Claims & Signs Of Jesus!
 - So That You Can:
 - Read About Them!
 - And Even Study Them!
 - But - This Is Not All:
 - That It Takes:
 - To Believe!
 - So John Wrote:
 - For Something Greater!
 - Something Deeper! So:
 - To Believe:
 - Also Requires:
 - A Humble Confidence:
 - In Jesus’ Claims:
 - In Your Heart!
 - That What You Read:
 - About Him - Is Not Fantasy - And:
 - Its Not Fiction!
 - It’s The Truth!
 - And You Can Rely Upon:
 - Not Just 1 Man’s Word & Testimony!

- But 12 & Many More!
- **IE:** So Many Today Tell Us To:
 - “Trust The Science!”
 - But How Often Has The Science:
 - Changed - Even In The Last Six Months!
- But John Tells Us To:
 - “Trust The Scripture!”
 - Because It Is Real, Unchanging, Eternal Truth!
 - And You Can Bank Your Life & Soul On It!
- But Even When:
 - Your Heart Is Warmed To The Truth:
 - About Jesus - Belief In Him:
 - Must Go Further & Deeper Still!
 - Because Even:
 - “The devils also believe, and tremble!” (James 2:19)
- So - To Believe:
 - Also Requires:
 - A Personal Commitment:
 - To The Truth Claims Of Jesus:
 - And To Jesus Himself:
 - With Your Will!
 - A Personal Trust!
 - As Peter & The Disciples Had:
 - In 6:67-69 - When Jesus Asked Them:
 - “Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And **we believe** and **are sure** that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God!”
 - They Personally Believed:
 - That Jesus’ Claim To Be:
 - The Son Of God:
 - Was True!
 - And So - He Was:
 - Their God & They Would Follow Him!
 - A Personal Trust:
 - As The Man Born Blind Had:
 - In 9:38 - When He Said To Jesus:
 - “Lord, **I Believe!** And He Worshiped Him!”
 - Or - The Kind Of Trust:
 - That Martha Had:
 - In 11:27 - When She Said:
 - “Yea, Lord: **I believe** that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world!”
 - Have You Come To This:
 - Turning Point In Your Life?
 - Do You Believe:
 - “Jesus **Is** The Christ, The Son Of God!”
 - Do You Personally Believe:
 - First - In **Who** Jesus Is?
 - The Son Of God!
 - Which Even The Unbelieving Jews Understood:
 - Was A Divine Description!
 - As The Eternal Son Of God - Jesus Is Himself:
 - Your God!
 - The One Who Created You!
 - The One Who Loves You!
 - The One Who Is Calling You:
 - To Himself!
 - Do You Personally Believe:

- In *What* Jesus Did?
 - As The Messiah / The Christ!
- He Lived The Life:
 - That You Were Required To Live!
- He Died The Death:
 - That You Deserved To Die! And Then:
- He Rose From The Dead:
 - So That You May Now Have Life:
 - In Him!
- And He Is The Only One:
 - Who Could Do All This:
 - For You!
- And That Is Why - When You Believe In Him:
 - You Come:
 - “Nothing In My Hands I Bring, Simply To Thy Cross I Cling!” (Augustus Toplady)
- Do You Personally Believe:
 - In *Why* Jesus Came?
 - His Own Name Gives The Answer Away!
 - He Came To Seek & To Save:
 - You Who Were Lost!
- Let John & His Inspired Words!
 - Let Christ & His Works!
 - Persuade You:
 - To Believe, Be Saved:
 - And Be Blessed!
 - Again - As Jesus Says:
 - 20:29 - “Blessed Are They That Have Not Seen, And Yet Have Believed!”
- But - There’s More:
 - To John’s Purpose Here:
 - Than Just Evangelism!
 - He Also Wrote:
- For Promotion!
 - To Promote The Kind Of Life:
 - That Jesus Offers:
 - To Those Who Do Believe In Him!
 - 20:31b - “And That Believing Ye Might Have Life Through His Name!”
- John Wrote:
 - With A Purpose Of Exhortation As Well!
 - He Wants Christians:
 - To Continue In Their Faith:
 - In Jesus - And Really “Have Life!”
- What Kind Of Life:
 - Are You Now Living?
 - Are You:
 - Limping Along:
 - In Your Life?
 - Are You:
 - Languishing:
 - In Your Life? Or:
 - Are You:
 - Really Living!
- When You Believe:
 - You Can Have Real Assurance:
 - That Your Life In Christ:
 - Is An “Eternal” & An “Everlasting” Life!
 - And That’s Great!
 - That’s According To:

- Jesus' Own Word!
 - 5:24 - "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life!"
- But - Do You Possess The *Kind* Of Life:
 - Jesus Came To Give You?
 - 10:10 - "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly!"
 - As John Gill Once Described It:
 - "Besides Life" - Jesus Came That You - "Might Have An Abundance Of Grace From Christ, All Spiritual Blessings In Him Now, And All Fulness Of Joy, Glory, And Happiness Hereafter!"
 - Is This The Kind Of Life:
 - You Are Experiencing Today:
 - In Christ?
- Let The Words & Works:
 - Of The Lord Jesus Christ:
 - That You Will Find:
 - Not Only In The Gospel Of John:
 - But In All Of The Bible:
 - Bring You To The Point In Your Life:
 - Where You Can Say As The Apostle Paul Said:
 - "For Me To Live Is Christ!"
 - Philippians 1:21 - And:
 - "Christ Liveth In Me! And The Life Which I Now Live In The Flesh I Live By The Faith Of The Son Of God, Who Loved Me, And Gave Himself For Me!"
 - Galatians 2:20

Conclusion:

1. This Is What The Gospel Of John Is All About!
 - This Is What:
 - The Word Of God Is About:
 - As A Whole!
 - To Bring You To Faith:
 - In Jesus - So That You Can Have
 - Life - A Full, Fruitful, Faithful - Life:
 - Of Blessing "Through His Name!"
2. Is This True Of You Today?
 - Let The Great Signs Of Jesus:
 - Persuade You & Convince You:
 - Of The Truth Of His Claims:
 - And Believe In Him!
 - And Then:
 - Let The Great Significance Of Jesus:
 - Bring You To The Point Of:
 - Real Life & Real Living:
 - In Him!
 - Remember These Words Of Jesus:
 - "Blessed Are They That Have Not Seen, And Yet Have Believed!" (20:29)

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