

INTRODUCTION

1. Jesus' resurrection - unprecedented insight into life after death - 2T 1:10b.
2. Jesus then met w/ apostles - 1Jn 1:1-4. Eyewitnesses. Thomas - Jn 20.

1st: The Setting - v1-24

1. **Activities of the 1st LD** - v1-23. Note emphasis on *seeing*.
2. **Absence of Thomas** - v24. Why was Tom not w/ gathered disciples?
 - a. *one of the 12*
 - b. v25 fixated on Jesus' body: prospect of Jesus' death - 11:16
 - c. *He was not w/ them when Jesus came.*

2nd: A Sight of Christ is Demanded - v24-25

1. **In Jn, seeing is believing** - Jn 1:14; v18. [2:11; 6:2; 9:37-38; 14:7, v9]. Jesus came to manifest Himself to men. God acts & interprets His acts. We are given His interpretive words.
2. **Seeing resurrected Jesus = content of disciple's faith.** Jn 20:25.
3. **Seeing resurrected Jesus is what Thomas demands for his faith.** Disc's saw Jesus & heard His word: *peace*. Tom wants "scientific" proof: see & touch. The works of Jesus show His deity - Jn 10:38; 14:11.

- i. That Jesus can be seen is one thing, to demand? Jn 4:48 *you will not believe* - as Tom: *will not believe*. Tom could've been 1st to believe on the basis of the testimony of apostles.

3rd: A Sight of Christ is Granted - v26-27

1. **The 2nd LD** - v26 Next Sunday. 8 days = inclusive count. Repeat v19.
2. **The Sight of the Lord** - v27. Did Tom actually touch the resurrected Jesus? Leon Morris; D.A. Carson [v29 - *b/c you have seen Me*]
3. Confession - v28 (later) => he is no longer unbelieving but believing.

4th: A Summons to Faith Without Seeing - v29-31

1. **Jesus Confirms Tom's faith derived from sight** - v29a [Rm 4:17]. Jesus asks a question. Implies Tom could've believed on basis of apostolic witness.
2. **Jesus Confers a blessing to those who will believe w/o seeing** - v29b. Jn 17:20 *I do not ask in behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word.*
3. **John Calls us to believe w/o seeing** - v30-31. *Blessed.*
4. **Unbeliever:** Jn 19:35 - 1Jn 1:1-3 believe the apostolic witness - Rm 10:17
5. **Believer:** 1Pt 1:8-9 *Blessed are they who did not see & yet believed.* AMEN