

Restoration of Thomas by the Resurrection of Jesus (John 20:24-29)

- A wonderful occasion for all the disciples to see & speak to the risen Christ
- It wasn't that way for all, a week after the resurrection Thomas had been absent
- He had not yet seen the risen Christ, so he received the news with scepticism
- When Christ appeared to him, his doubt turned into certainty, then confession

I. Doubt and Scepticism of the Resurrection of Jesus (20: 26)

- Thomas could not logically understand the resurrection so he chose to reject it
- Thomas should have been with the other disciples after the crucifixion of Christ
- Only when he was found with the other disciples did Christ satisfy his questions
- We ought, as far as we can, avoid being absent from worship on Sunday
- The blessings we forfeit if we don't attend: preaching, Lord's Table, fellowship
- In being absent, Thomas had to wait a whole week for his fears to be calmed
- Only person to blame for his miserable condition was Thomas (Proverbs 8:34)

II. Certainty & Confidence of the Resurrected Jesus (20: 27)

- The next Lord's Day, Jesus again appeared to all eleven of the disciples
 - On this occasion the exchange between Thomas and Jesus is the focal point
 - This created a wonderful platform for Christ to teach all on the resurrection
- 1) Confidence & certainty Jesus gives to all the disciples is the **blessing of peace**
- 'peace be with you' Jesus is the prince of peace (Isa 9: 6) this is real peace
 - Declaration of peace is a testimony of inner spiritual condition of those in fellowship with Christ through the exercise of a living faith.
- 2) Confidence & certainty to Thomas & all the disciples of the **resurrection**
- Jesus invites Thomas to touch the scars, put his hands in his sides and believe
 - Jesus doesn't condemn Thomas, says who believes without seeing is blessed

III. A Firm Confession of the Deity of Jesus 20: 28

- The result of this was Thomas unreservedly confessed Jesus as his Lord & God
 - Confession of divine faith in the Messiah, 'my Lord', Adonai, My God, Elohim
 - With eyes of awakened faith, Thomas sees not only wounded hands of risen Master, but the divine glory of a victorious Saviour.
- 3) Confidence & certainty: **reflect on what we truly believe** : though we don't see until Christ returns (Rev 1: 7) do we truly believe? (Heb 11:1) are we blessed?