

DO YOU BELIEVE

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INTRODUCTION

- A. TEXT: *“Many other signs therefore did Jesus in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book: but these are written, that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye may have life in his name.”* (John 20;30,31).
- B. SETTING:
1. After the resurrection of Jesus.
 2. Jesus had appeared to the apostles, at least twice.
 3. The story of Thomas, then... *“Jesus saith unto him, Because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.”* (v. 29).
 4. John is now bringing to a close the account that he has recorded of the life of Jesus. (John only considers about 20 days of the 3 plus years of the public ministry of Jesus).
 5. The stated purpose of his book – **That we might believe.....DO WE?**
- C. FAITH IS BASED ON EVIDENCE. (Hebrew 11).
1. These are written...this is the evidence...Given by an eye witness.
 2. Consider the evidence, the then the QUESTION....
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- A. THIS QUESTION ASKED SEVERAL TIMES IN NEW TESTAMENT.
1. The man born blind, healed by Jesus, cast out by the Jews.
 - a. *“Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and finding him, he said, Dost thou believe on the Son of God?”* (John 9:35)
 - b. *“Lord, I believe.”* (v. 38).
 2. Paul to Agrippa in Acts 26: *“Do you believe the prophets?”*
- B. *“Jesus answered them, Do ye now believe?”* (John 16:31).
1. *“You will be scattered.”*
 2. *You will have tribulation.”*
 3. *You will be persecuted and caused to suffer...*
 4. **Do you Now Believe?**
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Importance of Believing

A. IF WE DO NOT BELIEVE.

1. "All be judged who believe not" (II Thess. 2:12).
2. Shall not enter into the Promised Rest. (Heb. 3;18,19).
3. Those who believed not were destroyed. (Jude 5).

B. IF WE DO BELIEVE.

1. "*Whosoever believeth may have eternal life.*" (John 3:15).
 2. John 3:16, quote.
 3. Romans 9:33; 10:11; "*whosoever believeth on Him shall not be put to shame...for whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*"
 4. "*.....and that believing ye may have life in his name.*" (John 20:31).
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The Father's Testimony

A. THE WORKS (miracles, signs and wonder's) that God did through Him.

1. "*Ye men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God unto you by mighty works and wonders and signs which God did by him in the midst of you even as ye yourselves know.*" (Acts 2:22).
2. Jesus' ministry began with a miracle. His work was filled with miracles, that they might know that he was from God.

B. THE SCRIPTURES:

1. Gen. 3:15.
2. Seek of Abraham Gen. 12:1-3; then fulfilled in Gal. 3:16.
3. The prophet Deut. 18;15-18; - then fulfilled in Jesus Acts 3:22.
4. Types and shadows (see Book of Hebrews).
5. The list could go on, The spirit, John the baptist, book of Psalms.

C. THE EMPTY TOMB.

1. The Jews wouldn't...Romans couldn't, leaves only God and resurrection.
 2. Col. 2:12.
 3. I Cor. 15.
 4. All of John 20: Thomas... *My Lord and my God.*"
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THESE WERE WRITTEN

- A. WHAT WAS WRITTEN? Look at outline of the things John wrote.
1. The Witness of John in chapter 1.
 2. The miracles of Jesus beginning in chapter 2.
 3. His Teachings.
 - a. Described by Nicodemus.
 - b. *"We know thou art a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that thou doest, except God be with him."* (John 3:2).
- B. THE MANY TIMES Jesus detailed for them what would happen before it happened. This, that their faith be made strong.
1. *'And now I have told you before it came to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe.'* (John 14:29).
 2. *"These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be caused to stumble. They shall put you out of the synagogue; yea the hour cometh, that whosoever killeth you shall think that he offereth service unto God....but these things have I spoken unto you, that when their hour is come, ye may remember them, how that I told you."* (John 16:1,2; 4).

CONCLUSION

- A. Eternal life depends upon this faith; nothing else will do. Either Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God all that He claimed to be - or He was and is an imposter. There is no middle ground. This is John's proposition; it is the proposition of the book!
- B. *"Jesus answered him, Do you now believe?"* (John 16:31).
1. Your eternal destiny depends on it!
 2. *"Except ye believe that I am He, you shall die in your sins."* (John 8:24).
 3. If we believe Him....We will Obey Him.

C. DO YOU BELIEVE.....HAVE YOU OBEYED?
