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“Seeing and Believing”

Jesus’ Resurrection Appearance to the Disciples and to Thomas

John 20:19–31

July 17, 2016

Dr. Mark Strauss

Theme: Following Jesus’ appearance to Mary Magdalene, the risen Lord then appears to all the disciples, first with Thomas absent and then with him present. Though “doubting Thomas” refuses to believe until he sees Jesus himself, Jesus pronounces a blessing on all those who acknowledge the reality of the resurrection by faith.

Outline

Context: The Empty Tomb and the Appearance to Mary Magdalene

1. Appearance to the Disciples without Thomas (20:19–23)

a. Appearance through locked doors, vv. 19–20

b. Bestowal of the Holy Spirit, vv. 21–23

3. Appearance to Thomas (20:24–29)

a. Thomas's doubts, vv. 24-25

b. Jesus' appearance, v. 26

c. Jesus' call for faith, v. 27

d. Thomas's confession, v. 28

e. Jesus' pronouncement, v. 29

4. The Purpose of the Gospel (20:30–31)

Takeaway: Though doubts are a normal part of our Christian life, ultimately we live by faith and not by sight.

Next Cove: July 24, 2016

Epilogue

John 21:1–25