THE GOSPEL OF JOHN
Lesson #16 - Faith in the Resurrection
Scripture Reading: John 20:24-29

04/21/19

Introduction:
1. One does not have to physically see something to believe. Eyewitnesses provide evidence. (ie. Grand Canyon; Washington Monument; etc.)
2. Those who have believed and not seen the resurrection are blessed.

I. THOMAS’ REASON TO BELIEVE
A. BACKGROUND
   1. The tomb was found empty -Jn 20:1-10
   2. Jesus appeared unto Mary Magdalene -Jn 20:11-18
   3. Jesus appeared unto His disciples (except Thomas) -Jn 20:19-23

B. THOMAS BECOMES A BELIEVER
   1. He stated he would not believe without seeing first
      a. He should have believed on the other’s testimony.
      b. On the other hand, it is good to seek confirmation
         1) God does not have us blindly believe in Him (He never has).
         2) Faith is evidence of things not seen -He 1:1 (emp. added)
   2. He saw and believed
      a. Jesus wanted Him not to doubt, but believe
      b. Thomas made the great confession of the deity of Christ -vs. 28

II. OUR FAITH TODAY
A. REASONS FOR OUR BELIEF
   1. The eyewitness testimony -Jn 20:30, 31
   2. The tomb was sealed and guarded -Mt 27:62-66
   3. The tomb was left neat -Jn 20:6, 7
   4. The persecution of the first century -Ac 4:1-22; 5:22-42

B. OUR TRANSFORMATION
   1. The resurrection gives us hope –1Co 15:20-ff; 54-58
   2. The focus on heavenly things -Co 3:1-4
   3. Motivates us to live righteously -1Jn 3:3

Conclusion:
1. Thomas saw Jesus resurrected from the dead and it changed him forever.
2. Our faith in the resurrection will change us forever too!