



Series: Easter Sunday

Sermon: I'll Believe It When I See It

Date: Sunday, March 31st, 2024

How do you handle your life when things don't seem to be turning out the way that you had hoped?

How do we find hope and answers in a world that is not peaceful and is full of chaos?

Any hopes and dreams that they had put in Jesus _____ when He died on a Roman cross.

It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened. (Luke 24:10-12)

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After He said this, He showed them His hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! (John 20:19-21)

"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27)

Only _____ gives us hope and peace.

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in His hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." (John 20:24-25)

The Christian faith was never meant to be a _____ faith where you just believe and hope something happens.

"You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:13)

A week later His disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to Him [Jesus], "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:26-28)



Thomas was honest enough to say when he didn't believe, but was also _____ enough to follow the evidence to its full meaning.

Thomas' Response To Jesus:

1. He _____ that Jesus is His Lord and His God
2. He _____ that Jesus is his Master and the King of his life who will lead his life

It is only when we can understand God's love for us and all that He did to die for us and redeem us, that compels us to commit ourselves to Him and His ways.

Then Jesus told Thomas, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29)

Genuine belief in Jesus includes both confession and commitment to the Lord of all.

Because of the resurrection of Jesus, life and beauty has resulted from death and surrender.

The resurrection brings hope and true _____ to anyone who would believe it.

Our hope and peace is never in our circumstances but our hope and peace is in the Person of Jesus because of the resurrection event.

Bottom Line: *Believing will result in seeing.*

Questions to reflect on this week or with others:

1. *What do you need hope and peace for today?*
2. *Where do you stand with the resurrection? Something to believe and commit to or just a nice story that doesn't apply to your life?*
3. *How does knowing about the resurrection of Jesus give you hope and peace in the circumstances that you are currently facing?*

Songs used in service: Build My Life (Pat Barrett), Goodness of God (Rhett Walker), Forever (Kari Jobe), You've Already Won (Shane & Shane), Walking Free (Micah Tyler), God So Loved (We The Kingdom)

-----Tear Here -----

Any prayer requests?

Name _____ **Date:** _____ **Email:** _____

What can we be praying for you about?