John Lesson 50

Robert Harkrider · John 20:19–31

INTRODUCTION

- What Thomas did was give us some certain proofs that this indeed was the same Jesus who was raised from the dead.
- The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the cornerstone of our faith.

1 Proofs That Christ Was Raised

1 Corinthians 15:1–8; Acts 1:3; Ephesians 1:20–23

- If he be not raised, then our faith is vain, we are yet in sins.
- The empty tomb stands as a testimony that Christ was raised from the dead.
- Both the empty tomb and the many witnesses verify that he is the Christ, that he was risen.
- There was cause for great rejoicing at his resurrection. But there is also great cause for rejoicing at his ascension.

2 Jesus Appears to His Apostles

John 20:19–23

- Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut, came Jesus and stood in the midst and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.
- It really matters not whether Jesus entered the door by them opening it or whether he came in by a miracle.
- When he showed them his hands and his side, he showed them the same body that had been crucified.
- They were glad when they saw the Lord.

3 The Great Commission

Matthew 28:18–20; Mark 16:15–16; Luke 24:46–48

- Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.
- The Great Commission was great because it had no boundaries, it had no limits.
- As they preached the message of salvation, they preached a gospel that was accepted by some and obeyed and sin forgiven. But by others, they rejected it, and therefore their sins were not forgiven.
- You and I today can either have our sins remitted, forgiven, or we can have our sins retained by our failure to accept him as the Lord and to obey him.

4 Be Not Faithless but Believing

John 20:24–29; Luke 24:9–11

- Faith in Jesus Christ is not based on blind fanatical emotion, nor is it based on superstition.

- Faith is based upon reasonable evidence. It's based upon a rational examination of that evidence.
- They did not die for a lie, but rather they had convincing proof.
- Blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed.

5 My Lord and My God

John 20:28; John 1:1–3

- In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- John starts out as a treatise declaring to us that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, that he possessed the nature of deity, that he was God.
- He's not the same person as the Father, but he possessed the nature and quality of deity.

6 Written That Ye Might Believe

John 20:30–31; Matthew 1:23; Philippians 2:5–11

- These are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye might have life through his name.
- It is a selective gospel. Other signs he worked, but these signs were selected.
- The Gospel of John is an apologetic gospel. Now, the word apology literally does not mean to make excuse for, but its root meaning is to make a defense of.
- This is a definitive gospel. It defines not only that he is the Messiah, but that he is the Son of God.
- This gospel is an effective gospel. The closing words of chapter 20 is that believing you might have life through his name.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **What do you believe about Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God?**

MY NOTES