

DOUBT

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# Reflection

- Has there even been a time that you doubted something or someone?
- Have you ever doubted the truth – the Word of God?

## *Doubt*

Mark 9:20-24

- <sup>20</sup> So they brought the boy. But when the evil spirit saw Jesus, it threw the child into a violent convulsion, and he fell to the ground, writhing and foaming at the mouth.
- <sup>21</sup> “How long has this been happening?” Jesus asked the boy’s father.
- He replied, “Since he was a little boy. <sup>22</sup> The spirit often throws him into the fire or into water, trying to kill him. Have mercy on us and help us, if you can.”
- <sup>23</sup> “What do you mean, ‘If I can’?” Jesus asked. “Anything is possible if a person believes.”
- <sup>24</sup> The father instantly cried out, “I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!”

# The Man

- Asked for help from Jesus.
- Questioned if Jesus could provide help.
- Outcome – Anything is possible if a person believes.

## Genesis 18:9-15

- <sup>9</sup> “Where is Sarah, your wife?” the visitors asked.
- “She’s inside the tent,” Abraham replied.
- <sup>10</sup> Then one of them said, “I will return to you about this time next year, and your wife, Sarah, will have a son!”
- Sarah was listening to this conversation from the tent. <sup>11</sup> Abraham and Sarah were both very old by this time, and Sarah was long past the age of having children. <sup>12</sup> So she laughed silently to herself and said, “How could a worn-out woman like me enjoy such pleasure, especially when my master—my husband—is also so old?”
- <sup>13</sup> Then the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh? Why did she say, ‘Can an old woman like me have a baby?’ <sup>14</sup> Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return about this time next year, and Sarah will have a son.”
- <sup>15</sup> Sarah was afraid, so she denied it, saying, “I didn’t laugh.”
- But the LORD said, “No, you did laugh.”

Sarah

Sarah laughed

Sarah lied

REACTION

## John 20:24-29

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (also known as Didymus<sup>[a]</sup>), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.

<sup>25</sup> So 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.”

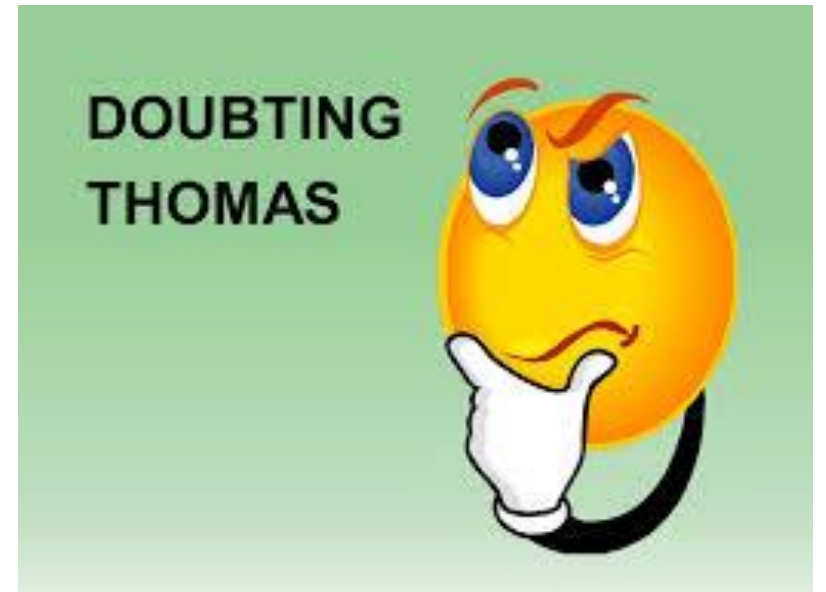
<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

<sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

# Are You Like Thomas

- Thomas known as Didymus
  - He doubted
  - He ate with Jesus
  - What was the outcome?





# Faith

- Is doubt preventing you from believing that the bible is the word of God?

2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 3:15 -17

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

- Doubt due to pleasure

2 Thessalonians 2:10

<sup>10</sup>and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

# Faith

- Are you doubting because of someone else's belief?
  - [Acts 14:1-2](#) <sup>1</sup>At Iconium Paul and Barnabas went as usual into the Jewish synagogue. There they spoke so effectively that a great number of Jews and Greeks believed. <sup>2</sup>But the Jews who refused to believe stirred up the other Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers.
  - [Acts 28:24](#) <sup>24</sup>Some were convinced by what he said, but others would not believe.
  - [1 Corinthians 1:10](#)  
<sup>10</sup> Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

# Light

John 3:19

And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.



## **John 8:12**

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

## **1 John 1:5**

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

## **Ephesians 5:8**

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

# Obedience

- The general concept of obedience both in the [Old and New Testament](#) relates to [hearing](#) or hearkening to a higher authority. One of the Greek terms for obedience conveys the idea of positioning oneself under someone by submitting to their authority and command. Another Greek word for obey in the New Testament means "to trust."

# Obedience

Jesus calls us unto obedience

John 14:15 If you love me, keep my commandments



Obedience is commanded by God – True worship

Romans 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is true and proper worship.

# Obedience

Genesis 22:18

"And through your descendants all the nations of the earth will be blessed—all because you have obeyed me."

Luke 11:28

But He said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it.

# Obedience

1 John 2:3-6

- And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. If someone claims, "I know God," but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.



# Blessed Are Those That Have Not Seen But Yet Believe

## Clarifying Points to Overcome Doubt

### Doubt

- Part of a denomination
- Take the Lord's Supper - Once a month or once a year or not at all
- Play instruments in worship
- Baptism - Sprinkle, delayed baptism or not at all
- Join a church

### Believe

- Unity – John 17:20-21
- Partake of the Lord's Supper every week – Acts 20:7
- Sing – Eph 5:19
- Baptized – Mark 16:16
- Added to the Church – Act 2:47

# Closing

- Through obedience you can overcome doubt by putting on Christ.
- How do you put on Christ?
- Hear – Romans 10:17
- Believe – Romans 10:10
- Repent - Luke 13:3
- Confess – Romans 10:9
- Baptism – Act 2:38