

September 25, 2016

The Empty Tomb John 20:19-31 By Kirk Gambrell

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Using This Study

① EXAMINE His Word

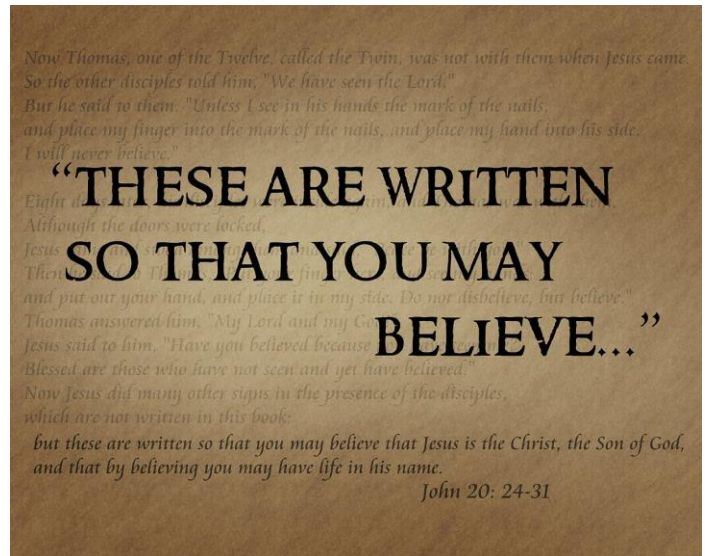
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

② EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

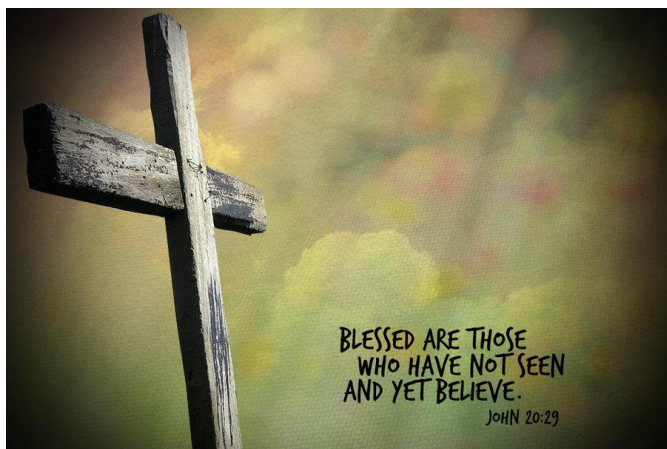
③ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



Each week we gather to celebrate the promise of eternal life that we have from Jesus our Lord. This week we will seek to answer two basic questions. The first one is: what do Christians really believe? Today we will look at how Jesus died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sin and rebellion. The second question is: how do we know the story is true? To answer this, we will look at the reliability of the eyewitness accounts that tell the story of Jesus.

We are glad that you have come to worship with us this morning; may our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and your time here.



Read John 20:19-31 (NET)

¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the disciples had gathered together and locked the doors of the place because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. Just as the Father has sent me, I also send you." ²² And after he said this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you retain anyone's sins, they are retained."

²⁴ Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

²⁵ The other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he replied, "Unless I see the wounds from the nails in his hands, and put my finger into the wounds from the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe it!"

²⁶ Eight days later the disciples were again together in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and examine my hands. Extend your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue in your unbelief, but believe."

²⁸ Thomas replied to him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are the people who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰ Now Jesus performed many other miraculous signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passages.

1. Are there any words or phrases in the passage or from the sermon that you would like explained further?

2. What did Thomas want to see in order to believe Jesus was alive?

8. Jesus claimed to be God. (John 8:56-59) This only leaves us with 3 possibilities as to whom He is. What are those 3 possibilities?

[(John 8:56-59NET) ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham was overjoyed to see my day, and he saw it and was glad.]

⁵⁷ Then the Judeans replied, "You are not yet fifty years old! Have you seen Abraham?"

⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, "I tell you the solemn truth, before Abraham came into existence, I am!"

⁵⁹ Then they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus was hidden from them and went out from the temple area.]

9. What do you think about Jesus?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

SERMON NOTES