

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO



— JOHN —



JOHN 20:24-31

SCRIPTURE READING

Overcoming Self-doubt

Self-doubt isn't fashionable



- 2 THINGS TO QUIT TODAY:
1. DOUBTING YOUR INTUITION
 2. DOUBTING YOUR INTUITION



What about everyone else?



What does our double standard say about **us...** and **doubt?**



Doubt isn't "objective"



Doubt has interests

Doubt feels...

Honest- it IS how I think/feel

Authentic- Coming from a place in us

Sophisticated- Fools are 'taken in' the wise "see through"

Noble- Some things deserve to be questioned

When mixed with pride and fear, the feeling of doubt can become blinding, then destroying.

MAIN IDEA:

**Jesus' goal is to
make you a believer.**

Not to make you believe.



Making you into a believer

God wants believers that see and embrace the good, not spectators that concede the undeniable.

God's purposes in his revelation are more important and better than your demands for his disclosure.



Thus: God's revelation is fine tuned to exacting divine purposes that go beyond our desires.

POINT 1

**Even doubt that feels
noble is easily
deluded**

We think we're being honest.
God usually calls it "unbelief"

Jesus "Meets" Thomas. That's nice.



John 20:26b-28

*"Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' 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.**' Thomas replied to him, 'My Lord and my God!'"*

Doubt

“Wavering”

Anxiously back and forth

Jude 1:22. James 1:6 - kindness
“diakrino”

Incredulous

Refusing to believe

Jude 1:22. James 1:6 - confrontation
“apistia”

Doubt

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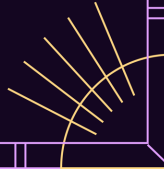
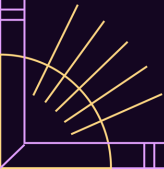

Jude 1:22. James 1:6 - confrontation
“apistia”





John 20:24-25

"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!'"

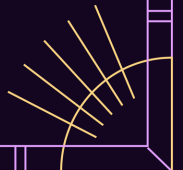




Thomas' Unbelief

And yours?

Anger & Jealousy
Unreasonable
Entitled &
Hypocritical



BGT **John 20:25** ἔλεγον οὖν αὐτῷ οἱ ἄλλοι μαθηταί· ἐωράκαμεν τὸν κύριον. ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· ἔάν μὴ ἴδω ἐν ταῖς χερσὶν αὐτοῦ τὸν τύπον τῶν ἥλων καὶ βάλω τὸν δάκτυλόν μου εἰς τὸν τύπον τῶν ἥλων καὶ βάλω μου τὴν χεῖρα εἰς τὴν πλευρὰν αὐτοῦ, οὐ μὴ πιστεύσω.

CSB **John 20:25** So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "If I don't see the mark of the nails in His hands, put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will never believe!"

ESV **John 20:25** So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

NAU **John 20:25** So the other disciples were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

NET **John 20:25** 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!"

NIV **John 20:25** 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."

Lay siege

☐☐☐☐☐ BGT Tools Copy

- Isa 29:3 ... ὡς Δαυιδ ἐπὶ σὲ καὶ βαλῶ περὶ σὲ χάρακα καὶ θήσω περὶ σὲ πύργους
- Luk 13:8 ... ἄφες αὐτὴν καὶ τοῦτο τὸ ἔτος, ἕως ὅτου σκάψω περὶ αὐτὴν καὶ βάλω κόπρια,
- Joh 20:25 *2 ... τῶν ἥλων καὶ βάλω τὸν δάκτυλόν μου εἰς τὸν τύπον τῶν ἥλων καὶ βάλω μοι

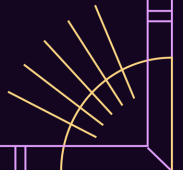
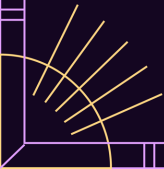
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Thomas' Unbelief

And yours?

Anger & Jealousy
Unreasonable
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POINT 2

**God reveals himself
for a purpose, not as a
proof.**

It is a "blessing" to believe
having not seen.



John 20:29

*“Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? **Blessed are the people who have not seen and yet have believed.**’”*



Blessed by NOT seeing?

Not cursed with the pathology of unbelief

Blessed to receive the kind of disclosure that transforms.



One model of God's disclosure:

Why is God's evidence the way it is?

Spectator
Evidence



Authoritative
Evidence



One model of God's disclosure:

Why is God's evidence the way it is?

Spectator Evidence



Evidence that makes the revealer bend to the will of the spectator.

Revealer is domesticated, taken for granted & trivialized, our entitlement is increased, we are not confronted, not transformed, our will is not challenged, and we do not come to see the beauty of the revealer

One model of God's disclosure:

Why is God's evidence the way it is?

Authoritative Evidence



"Purposeful authoritative evidence"

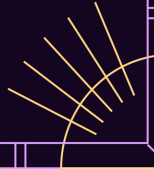
God's way of disclosure is a revelation of himself, not merely his existence. It must confront our Idols of the heart, mind and will in order to draw our wills to wholeheartedly yield to his love and attune ourselves to his will.



Faith in purposeful disclosure is blessed.

John 20:30-31

“Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO



— JOHN —

Doubt's Function



Heart

Emotion:

Something's off

Mind



Mind: Check conclusions

Consideration:

Should this be reviewed?

Both anxiety and conscience lobby

Conscience: Don't betray what's right

Soul

Strength



Will: Need action clarity



Doubt's Function



Heart

Emotion:

Something's off

Mind



Mind: Check conclusions

Consideration results:
inconclusive

Conscience: resolved

Anxiety: not resolved

Conscience: Don't
Soul betray what's right

Strength



Will: Need
action clarity



Doubt's Function

Mind



Mind: Check conclusions



Heart

Emotion:

Something's off

Dissonance

Conscience: Don't
Soul betray what's right

Strength



Will: Need
action clarity



Doubt's Function



Emotion:

Something's off

Mind



Mind: Check conclusions

Conscience: Don't
Soul betray what's right



Strength



Will: Need action clarity



Entitlement Feelings

“authentic” intuitions you should doubt

Wrath – makes you feel to right, even if you’re wrong.

Greed - I have this coming. It’s mine.

Acedia – It doesn’t really matter if I push myself.

Envy – It’s not fair, why should they have it?

Lust – Why refrain from what I desire?

Doubt – Why should I suffer the wavering of uncertainty?

