

**Series "Jesus: God And Savior"**  
**"Divine Appointment"**  
**John 20:19-31**  
**Part-67**

We will study **Appearance #5** and **Appearance #6**. Jesus only revealed Himself to His disciples.

1. To Mary Magdalene, John 20:14-18; Mark 16:9.
2. To the women returning from the tomb, Matthew 28:8-10.
3. To Peter later in the day, Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5.
4. To the disciples going to Emmaus in the evening, Luke 24:13-31.
5. To the apostles (except Thomas), Luke 24:36-45; John 20-19-24.
6. To the apostles a week later (Thomas present), John 20:24-29.

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "Blessed Are Those Who Have Not Seen Jesus And Yet Believed In Him Because Of His Word."

- 1. Verses 19-23 – Appearance To Ten Disciples**
- 2. Verses 24-29 – Appearance To Eleven Disciples**
- 3. Verses 30-31 – The Purpose Of John's Gospel**

**1. Verses 19-23 – Appearance To Ten Disciples:**

John 20:19 – "So when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week," – This was Sunday, when Jesus rose from the dead, first day of the week, John 20:1-18.

"and when the doors were shut (used for "locked") where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews," – The Jews had Jesus arrested and crucified. The disciples feared that their lives were in danger. Matthew 28:11-15 – Jesus warned of persecution, John 15:20.

"Jesus came and stood in their midst," – Though the doors were shut and locked down, He made His way right through the closed doors, Luke 24:37.

How did Jesus transform His disciples' fear into courage? He came to them.

"and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'" – This is the peace Jesus had promised, John 14:27.

Peace – "Shalom—peace!" Psalm 103:10

The work of the cross is peace and the message they would carry would be the Gospel of Peace. Man had declared war on God, but God would declare "Peace!" to those who would believe.

John 20:20

Not only did Jesus come to them, but also, He reassured them. He showed them His scars: "He showed them both His hands and His side."

The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. They were convinced that that it was really Jesus. Luke 24:41-43 – Jesus ate broiled fish before them.

John 16:20

Verses 21-23 – Jesus Commissioned The Disciples: John 20:21.

"So Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you;'" – Why did Jesus say this a second time? To prepare them for the work ahead!

When Jesus saw that the disciples' fear had now turned to joy, He commissioned them: "as the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

This commission was the dedication of His followers to the task of world evangelism, John 17:18.

Matthew 28:18-20

Verse 22 – The Power To Accomplish The Task: John 20:22 – This is a foretaste (or sustaining Power until Pentecost) of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The day of Pentecost was the filling of the Holy Spirit, 7 weeks later.

"He breathed on them" – Genesis 2:7 – In both Hebrew and Greek, the word for "breath" also means "spirit." The breath of God in the first creation meant physical life, and the breath of Jesus Christ in the new creation meant spiritual life.

Acts 1:8

John 20:23 – This is not power to forgive sins, only God can do that, Mark 2:7.

Forgiveness Is The Central Truth Of Our Message: "If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them;" – Context: Disciples sent out with the Gospel! Those that will receive the Gospel Message and turn from their sins are forgiven, Acts 10:43.

Through The Preaching of the Gospel – when persons repent/believe the gospel, the Lord will remit their sins (forgive).

We proclaim forgiveness on the basis of the Message of the Gospel. Greek scholar, Dr. Kenneth Wuest, translates it "they have been previously forgiven them," Luke 24:47.

If people refuse the remedy through the Gospel, their sins are retained (Unforgiven). "if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained." – Those that will not repent, we can say they will remain in their sins; Lost for eternity! Hebrews 10:26-27

## **2. Verses 24-29 – Appearance To Eleven Disciples:**

John 20:24

"Thomas, one of the twelve," – This is the disciple that is called "Doubting Thomas;" Better called "Pessimistic or Melancholy, Reflective Thomas." He was called Didymus, one of the twins.

John 11:16; John 14:5

John 20:25

"So the other disciples were saying to him, 'We have seen the Lord!'" – "kept saying to him," that they had seen the Lord Jesus Christ alive.

"But he said to them, 'Unless I see'" – Thomas wanted his faith to be built on fact; He wanted the same proof that the others had experienced, Mark 16:11; Luke 24:11.

Doubt says, "I cannot believe! There are too many problems!" Unbelief says, "I will not believe unless you give me the evidence I ask for!" In fact, in the Greek text, there is a double negative: "I positively will not believe!"

Hebrews 10:23-25

John 20:26-27

"and do not be unbelieving, but believing." – Literally "stop becoming faithless but become a believer."

John 20:28 – Notice what Thomas called Jesus – his master, but also God.

John 20:29 – "Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed." – That would be all of us here this morning, 1 Peter 1:8.

### **3. Verses 30-31 – The Purpose Of John’s Gospel:**

John 20:30 – John’s goal and purpose for writing this Gospel is summed up in 3 Words: “Signs,” “Believe,” and “Life.”

“Signs” – “wonderful signs;” suggests a spiritual aspect of miracles.

John 20:31

“Believe” – This word is used 100X in this Gospel.

“Life” – 36X in the Gospel, Ephesians 2:1-3.

John 10:10 – “I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly.”

#### **Application:**

1. The Work Of The Cross Is Peace And The Message Believers Carry Is The Gospel Of Peace. Man Had Declared War On God, But God Would Declare “Peace!” To Those Who Would Believe.
2. The Scars Of Jesus Are Evidence That The Price For Salvation Had Been Paid And Man Could Have “Peace With God.” The Basis For All Our Peace Is Found In The Person And Work Of Jesus Christ.
3. Jesus said, “Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed.” We Have The Complete Revelation Of God, The Bible. God Has Recorded And Said All That We Need For Salvation, We Only Need To Believe.