

Outline – October 10, 2021
John 11:16; John 14:4-5; John 20:19-29
Doubting Thomas (PPD Thomas)

Of All The Disciples, Only One Has A Nickname

- I. Who was “doubting” Thomas?**
 - A. A follower of Jesus
 - B. One who left everything for Jesus
 - C. One who struggled with his weakness
 - D. Jesus met him where he was so that he may overcome his doubt, diffidence, and paranoia
- II. The paranoid personality disorder (A pattern of suspicion and distrust)**
 - A. Others are deceiving them, or maybe desiring to harm them
 - B. Doubts the loyalty of friends
 - C. Can’t/won’t confide in others for fear information may be used against them
 - D. Reads hidden meanings in what was said ...can’t handle compliments
 - E. Bears grudges, doesn’t forgive easily
 - F. Perceives attacks on reputation or character
 - G. Suspicious of infidelity of significant other
- III. The consequences of PPD**
 - A. Long term relationships are rare
 - B. Socially isolated – few close friends (they run away, go somewhere else)
 - C. Believes almost everything is potential threat or hostile (sit with back against the wall)
 - D. Holds grudges
 - E. Believes people are out to get them
- IV. The etiology of PPD**
 - A. Unmet needs as a child
 - B. Seasons of abandonment
 - C. Trauma
 - D. Distrust throughout life
 - E. Disappointed by significant people throughout life
- V. The story of “doubting” Thomas**
 - A. A follower who struggled with faith
 - B. “Lets go die with Him”
 - C. “ How can we know the way”?
 - D. At the death of Jesus
 - 1. Not supposed to be this way
 - 2. Another person let me down
 - 3. Another person abandoned me
 - 4. Another person promised the “world,” but didn’t deliver

- E. A crisis of faith
 - 1. Not at the 1st meeting
 - 2. Perhaps cynical, paranoid, afraid
- F. Thomas 3 conditions
 - 1. See nail marks
 - 2. Put my finger in nail print
 - 3. Put my hand in His side
- G. A week later
 - 1. Thomas was there
 - 2. Jesus repeats the event
 - 3. Jesus met them where they were
 - 4. Jesus focused on Thomas
 - a. Put your finger here
 - b. See my hands
 - c. Reach out your hand
 - d. Stop doubting and believe
 - e. Thomas now “gets it”
- H. His response
 - 1. Convinced
 - 2. Confessed – my Lord and my God, Jesus was alive
 - 3. Thomas made it personal
 - 4. Belief became a life changing reality
 - 5. Cornerstone of our faith – He is risen, He is Lord, He is God

VI. Jesus’ response to Thomas

- A. Did not condemn his doubts
- B. Met Thomas where he was
- C. Gave him unique evidence
- D. Declared Thomas believed (Blessed are those who haven’t seen, yet believe)

VII. Results

- A. Thomas was the apostle/missionary to India
- B. Planted churches
- C. Died for his faith
- D. Became doubtless Thomas

**Jesus Gives Us What We Need
To Overcome And To Believe**