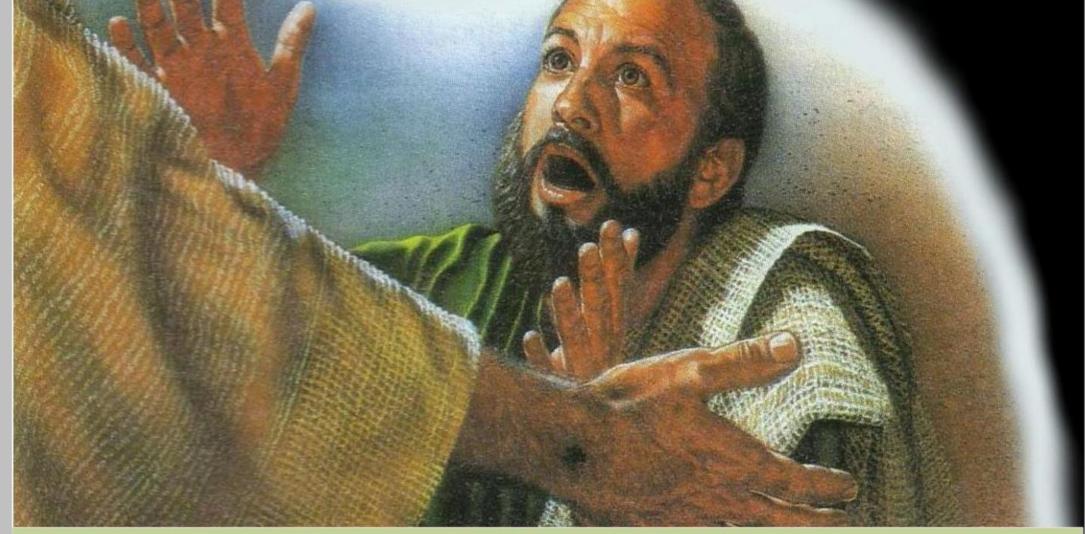
#### Welcome To Worship!

"WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE Splendor of his holiness; Tremble before him, all The earth." - PSALM 96:9



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### THE FAMILY OF GOD



# The Cross of Christ: If I were Thomas John 20:24-29

# John 20:24-29

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord."

So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." <sup>26</sup> And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" <sup>27</sup> Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."

- <sup>28</sup> And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"
- <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed."

# **1. The Defense of Thomas**

- 1. Thomas Was An Apostle, Chosen Personally By Jesus (Matt. 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:15; Acts 1:13)
- 2. Thomas Was Not Present The First Time Jesus Appeared To His Apostles (John 20:24)
- 3. Thomas Was Not The Only Apostle To Have Doubts (Mark 16:11; Luke 24:10-11, 36-39)
- 4. Thomas Did Not Remain A Doubter (John 20:28)

Acts 1:21-22

<sup>21</sup> "Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup> beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection."

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#### **2. The Dedication of Thomas**

- 1. It Is Not Wrong For A Disciple To Doubt – To Search For Certainty (John 14:1-6; 1 Pet. 3:15)
- 2. But, It Is Wrong For A Disciple To Keep Doubting (Matt. 14:26-31)
- 3. A True Disciple Walks Through The Doubts (John 11:8, 16)

# 1 Peter 3:15

<sup>15</sup> But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

# John 14:1-6

# 14 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.

<sup>2</sup> In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not *so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And where I go you know, and the way you know."

<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?"

# <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

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# "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Will We Be Baptized Today For The Forgiveness Of Sins? Hear Him (Romans 10:17) Believe Him (Mark 16:16) **Repent Of Sins Against Him (Acts 2:38) Confess Him (Acts 8:37) Be Baptized Into Him (Acts 22:16)** Live For Him (Galatians 2:20) Will We Be Restored Today If An Erring Christian? Come Back To Him (Matthew 11:28-30) Repent (Acts 8:22) Pray (James 5:16)