Sermon Series: John - The Word of Life - Part 59 Message: "My LORD, My God" Text: John 20:1-31 Date: 04/09/2023

- ★ John's purpose for writing was to connect people to Jesus! (Jn 20:30-31)
- ★ John was writing to Jewish Christians being kicked out of their synagogues (Jn 9:22)

John 20:1-31

- (v1) Mary Magdalene wasn't alone Mary the mother of James, Salome, Joanna, and others (Luke 24:10, Mark 16:1)
- (v1) Luke 24:3 says the women went inside the tomb but didn't see the body
- (v2) The Eleven (original disciples minus Judas) thought the women were speaking nonsense (Luke 24:11)
- (v3) "the other disciple" = John, the author of this gospel
- (v8) "He saw and believed." John believed the women's claims of the tomb being empty
- (v9) The disciples didn't understand that Jesus had to rise from the dead until he taught them about it (Luke 24:44-48)
- (v18-19) John doesn't say what happened between morning and evening (see Matthew 28:11-15, the guard's false report)
- (v19) The disciples were afraid what happened to Jesus might happen to them!
- (v19) Jesus suddenly appeared out of nowhere! Luke 24:37 says the disciples thought they saw a ghost!
- (v20) "The disciples were overjoyed" see John 16:20, 22 ("your grief will turn to joy")
- (v24-25) The same Thomas from John 11 that was prepared to die with Jesus now needs proof that Jesus is alive
- (v26-27) Where was Jesus for an entire week? He at least witnessed Thomas saying to the disciples that he needed proof, although they were all unaware Jesus was with them
- (v28) "My Lord and my God!"
 - Old Testament: "LORD God" = "Yahweh Elohim" (Yahweh = God's Hebrew name)
- (v30-31) Everything that John wrote was so that we would believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in Him we will have eternal life

Thoughts on "Doubting Thomas"

- Doubt is not unbelief (unbelief is the rejection of Jesus)
- When in doubt, think of the resurrection
 - 1 Corinthians 15:14 if the resurrection didn't happen, our faith is useless
- John's gospel pushes us to choose... Will we believe in Jesus or not?
- Jesus is our "living hope" (1 Peter 1:3-9)