

# “I Doubt It”

Based on John 20:24-29 (NIV) April 8, 2018  
Rev. Roger Madden, preaching

*John 20:24-25*

*24 Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.*

*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 it."*

† It is only when Jesus appeared to the disciples on that Easter evening and showed them his hands and side did the disciples believe.

† It is not only Thomas who doubted, they all did, just at different times.

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† Doubt is a natural part of faith.

† Doubt is normal.

† Doubt is questioning, seeking, & searching.

*John 20:26-28*

*26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"*

*27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."*

*28 Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"*

† Jesus does not come to Thomas until 7 days after Thomas asks for proof.

† God, through Jesus, comes to me when it is best for me.

*John 20:27b* - "... Stop doubting and believe."

† Doubt is not the opposite of faith, doubt can lead to faith.

† Jesus wasn't hard on Thomas for his doubts and He will not be hard on me about my doubts.

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† Oftentimes people, including me, need to doubt before we believe.

† When I doubt, let my doubt deepen my faith as I continue to search for answers to the questions which come from my doubt.

## Applying Today's Message to My Life:

† What doubts have I had in the past?  
Am I facing today?

† When have I doubted God in my life?

† What questions can I ask (which lead me to finding the answers) about a doubt I am having?

† How am I keeping my eyes, my heart and my soul open to God's answers so I am ready when He brings them to me, no matter how long it takes?