

A.M. OUTLINE
2/3/2018

NOT DOUBT; BUT TRUST & OBEY

(John 20:19-31)

(Hymn #342)

INTRODUCTION

"Doubt" - to waver in opinion; uncertain; hesitate; question; skeptical; suspicious; unsettled on a point or matter; apprehension; unsure; strong uncertainty as to the probability.

"An honest doubt" - to probe, search, find the meaning; to test something enough to prove it; to examine carefully; to study for the answer; concern for truth.

The challenge before us: because some accept doctrines that are unexamined; therefore, we must (1 Thess. 5:21) "Prove all things; hold fast to that which is good."

TWO EXAMPLES OF "AN HONEST DOUBT"

1. John the Baptist

(Matt. 11:1-3) "... he sent two of his disciples, and they said to Jesus, Art thou he that should come, or look we for another? ... "

John has a moment of doubt while in prison.

John is God's chosen, a preacher of repentance and the kingdom, baptized Jesus, and pointed his followers to Jesus: (Matt. 3:1-3; v13; John 1:29-30)

John takes his doubts to the right source, and Jesus gives the answer: (Matt. 11:4-6)
"... Go and show John again those things which ye do hear and see ... "

Examine the evidence and eliminate the doubt.

2. Thomas (John 20:19-31)

(v20) Jesus meets with the disciples, Thomas is absent, and presents the evidence to prove himself to be the resurrected Christ.

(v25) The disciples meet Thomas and say, "We have seen the Christ."

Thomas does not take their word for it, and he wants to see the evidence himself: (v25)

Good for you, Thomas, because Jesus warned: (Matt. 24:4-5) "Take heed that no man deceive you ... "

(Matt. 7:15) "Beware of false prophets ... "

(v26-27) Another meeting, evidence is presented, and Thomas answers correctly.

CLOSE: To overcome doubt, to strengthen faith, go to the source (the Word of God).