To Call Him, "My Lord And My God"

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 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." 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!' 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.' Thomas said to Him, 'My Lord and my God!' Then Jesus told Him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.' (John 20: 24-29)

Jesus is the son of God who was crucified on the cross for the forgiveness of human's sin. He died on the cross, was buried and raised from the dead on the third day. These facts are the password for eternity that one ought to believe. The password, as we know, should all letters and symbols be correctly entered to work properly. Jesus is the only way to eternal life, not only for Thomas but for everyone in the world who believe in His Name.

Last week we left Thomas with his twin of doubt and stubbornness that took him away from believing the disciples when they told him that Jesus has been risen from death and is alive. Now, we may ask this interesting question, 'What is the status of Thomas in regard to eternal life?' He is one of the disciples of Jesus but he ought to believe and confess more about Jesus to certainly become a part of Christ's eternal kingdom.

The burden of the disciples is Thomas and the other people who are not believing that Jesus was risen from the dead and He is alive. The disciples speak well about the event, and they try to explain and may even try to convince people. But one important fact to mention is this: "The convincing power to believe belongs only to the Lord Jesus."

The Lord did not allow Thomas to be doubting and unbelieving. A week later, Jesus came back to meet Him. How He convinced Thomas is the same way He may do to you who don't believe that He is alive again.

- 1) Jesus is alive and He will pass through any barrier to reach you: "Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them." The locked door is the barrier that separates you from Jesus. Your culture, tradition, or your religious background may be that locked door. But wherever corner or room you are He will surely reach you.
- 2) Jesus is alive and He will speak to you personally: "Then He spoke to Thomas." Jesus will speak to everyone personally. His personal invitation is for you to have eternal life.
- 3) Jesus will show you evidences that He is alive: "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side." The Lord showed His hands and side to Thomas, and to others Jesus will answer their questions and their doubts accordingly.

Jesus will reveal Himself in a way that the doubting person cannot neglect the truth that speaks about eternal life.

What could be your feelings if the Lord appears to us? How joyful and inexpressible it would be! His words, "Peace be upon you," is the excellent blessing that mankind needs to receive. The Lord's appearance will have a great impact that brings change from inside, releasing the person from many ties and bondages. That happened with Thomas. When he was convinced by the truth of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, he was released from doubt, stubbornness, and timidity and said, "My Lord and My God." By this statement, Thomas confessed that Jesus is His Lord and His Saviour who died on the cross and rose again for his sake. He reached a revelation of truth that Jesus is God.

The longing of man to meet God once again and to live with God as Adam and Eve were living at the beginning of the creation is to be fulfilled through Jesus, God who came to save us. All the prophecies in the Old Testament that say 'Jesus will come on earth, Jesus is the Son of God, Jesus is the King, Jesus will die on the cross to save the people, Jesus will raise from the dead, Jesus will ascend to the Father, and Jesus will be coming again,' will soon all be fulfilled. Jesus who is the only way for eternal life has appeared in human flesh so that whoever believes in Him will be saved.

Jesus told Thomas 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.' Thomas who demanded for more evidences believed after he saw by his own eyes and felt by his own hands the wounds of Jesus. And Thomas was blessed because he believed. Some people need no evidences to believe and they are blessed because they simply believed. Whosoever believes in Jesus will always be blessed and will have eternal life.

If the password for salvation is not completely and properly entered into your heart you will not receive eternal life. If you believe that Jesus was crucified on the cross but He did not die, you are wrong. If you believe that Jesus was not crucified but taken directly to heaven, you are mistaken. If you believe that Jesus is the Son of God but not God, you are away from the blessing. All the letters and symbols of the password must be correct to enter the Kingdom of God.

My Dear and Beloved: Thomas, if you don't believe you may wait upon the Lord and surely He will appear to you because He loves you. And finally, read with me the Gospel of John 20: 30-31, "Jesus did many miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name." What is written is more than enough for you to believe and be blessed with eternal life.

My Prayer: Father God I come before in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the grave on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord I commit myself to live a life of faith unto that inspire others and encourage them to believe in you and walk in your ways. This is my prayer and commitment in Jesus name Amen.