



“DO NOT BE UNBELIEVING,
BUT BELIEVING.” – JOHN 20:27

Four Degrees of Faith in the Resurrection

- St. John
- St. Mary Magdalene
- Disciples
- St. Thomas

St. John

He saw three signs:

1. The open tomb

- Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.”

(Jn. 20:2)

2. Presence of the linen cloths

- “And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in.”

(Jn. 20:5)



St. John



- 3. The folded handkerchief
 - “...and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself.” (Jn. 20:7)
 - “But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; and stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying by themselves; and he departed, marveling to himself at what had happened.” (Lk. 24:12)
 - “Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed.” (Jn. 20:8)

St. Mary Magdalene

- She loved the Lord deeply
- Seeing the angels did not distract her from her desire to meet the Lord
- She needed to see and hear the Lord to believe



The Disciples



- The disciples were extremely afraid
- **“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!’” (Jn. 20:26)**
- What made them gather together?
- Why were they scared?

The Disciples

- The Lord Jesus stood in their midst
- Revealed the truth about the resurrected body
- He gave them peace
 - **“But whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you.”**
(Lk. 10:5-6)
- The disciples believed only when they saw the wounds of the Lord Christ

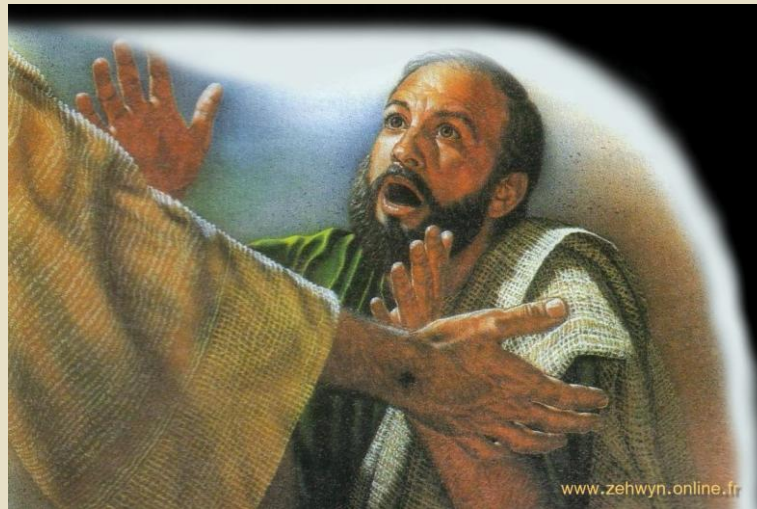
St. Thomas



- **“Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.”**
(Jn. 20:24)
- The person of St. Thomas
 - He was very honest in his following the Lord Christ
 - **“Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with Him.”** (Jn. 11:16)
 - Honest in his lack of understanding
 - **Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?”** (Jn. 14:5)

St. Thomas

- Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” (Jn. 20:29)



Conclusion

- Faith in the Resurrection is life-changing
 - Believing without seeing
 - Changes anxiety to joy
 - Changed fear to courage
 - Changed doubt to worship
- Christ can meet you where you are and increase your faith
- **Jesus said to him [the boy's father], "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" (Mk 9:23-24)**