

“WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BELIEVE IN CHRIST?” **(John 20:24-31)**

I. THE PROLOGUE: INTRODUCING JESUS CHRIST (1:1-18)

II. THE INTRODUCTION: WITNESSING ABOUT JESUS CHRIST (1:19-51)

III. THE SIGNS SECTION: PROVING THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST (2:1-12:50)

IV. THE LAST DISCOURSE: TEACHING FOR THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST (13:1-17:26)

V. THE CROSS & RESURRECTION: DEFINING JESUS AS THE CHRIST (18:1-20:31)

A. The CLIMACTIC CONFESSION of Doubting Thomas’s Faith (20:24-29)

1. The expected Thomas and _____ to believe based on the _____ of those who had _____ the risen Savior. (vv. 24-26)

** How is this demonstrated in John’s Gospel and what does this mean regarding the gospel message?*

** What attribute of Christ is seen in verse 27?*

2. Thomas confession in v. 28 confirms the truth of Christ’s _____ and serves as an intentional _____ with John 1:1.

B. The CLOSING PURPOSE STATEMENT of John’s Gospel (20:30-31)

1. John has _____ chosen certain _____ done by Christ to serve the purpose of this book. (v. 30)

** Does the mention of “these” (tauta) signs refer to the immediate context or the whole book?*

2. The placement of John’s purpose statement serves to identify the _____ of _____ in Jesus as _____. (v. 31)

** How does the immediate context of the “Believing Thomas” account support this?*

** What aspects of Jesus' person and work are found in the "Believing Thomas" account?*

** How do the two personal evangelistic invitations of John's Gospel support this consummate view of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of God"?*

** Have these elements of Christ's person and work been emphasized by John throughout this book?*

** How does all of this relate to our own evangelism and preaching of the gospel?*

3. The purpose of this book is not only to know about Jesus being the Christ, the Son of God, but also to _____ (*pisteuo*) that truth. (v. 31)

** What does this word mean?*

** Does it take a special "kind" of faith to be saved?*

** Is there a difference between believing in the person of Christ vs. a proposition by/about Him?*

** Is this the "sole" condition?*

** How does a person's volition fit in all of this?*

4. The _____ of believing that Jesus is the Christ is _____. (v. 31)

** Can you really know that you possess this?*