

Easter 2023

I doubt it.

Two Truths and a Lie

- A. I have sung in Saint Peter's Basilica during mass at the Vatican.
- B. I went skydiving over Germany while I was there for the Army.
- C. I threw out the first pitch at a Minnesota Twins game, twice.

Question: Is God real? If he is real, is he really good?

John 20:19-25

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as 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."

"We have seen the Lord!" – People in the room

"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." - Thomas

'Unless I see and unless I touch; I will not believe.'

What we should do when we doubt

- We should **ask** the hard questions
- We should **pursue** the answers.

When you doubt, doubt towards faith.

John 20:26-27

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."

John 20:28-29

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

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Thomas had doubts > Doubts made him ask questions > Thomas pursued answers

What questions do you have?

When you doubt, doubt towards faith.

John 14:1-7

¹ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going."

⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."