



# See But Not See

John 20

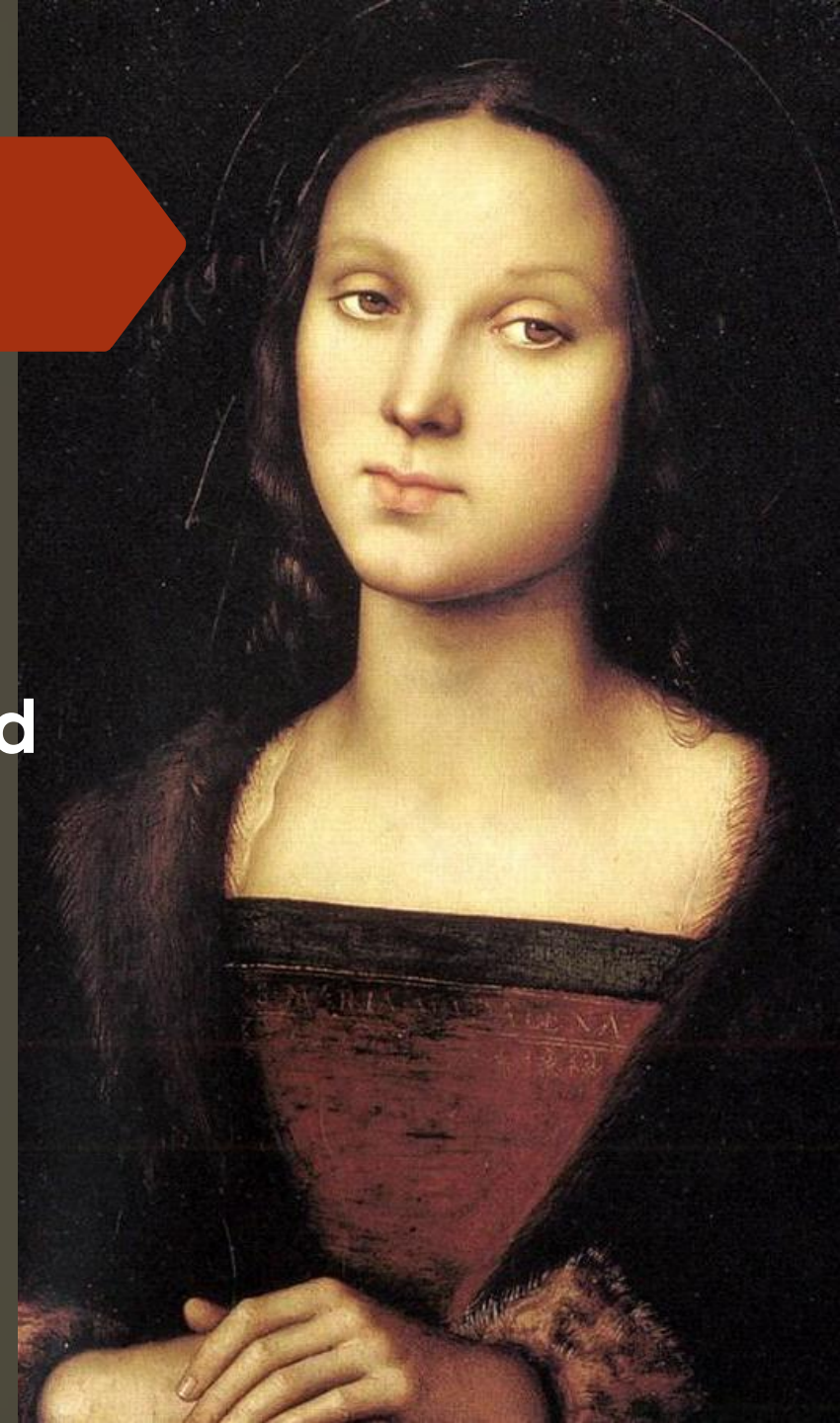
# See & Not See



- Thomas **did not see Jesus** at first after the resurrection, and he could not believe that Jesus was actually risen until he saw Jesus. He even wanted to touch Jesus' hand as a proof.
- On the other hand, Mary Magdalene **did see Jesus**, nevertheless she did not recognize Jesus until He talked to her.
- What's **wrong** with them? Clearly they knew Jesus well enough and believed in Him and loved Jesus very deeply. So why all this **confusion**?

# Mary Magdalene

- ▶ There are several “Mary’s” in the New Testament.
- ▶ We only know 2 things about this Mary, she had 7 demons at one point until Jesus **saved her**, and she was **wealthy** enough to give (Luke 8:1-3)
- ▶ She was traveling with Jesus ever since He cast out her demons. Therefore we can conclude that she must know Jesus well. Why would she not no recognized Jesus?



# Sorrow Clouds our Sight



- **Sorrow** can cloud our judgement (just like pain)
- Tears do not only cloud the physical sight, but also the **emotional sight** as well. (ill: Hagar)
- She had a personal encounter with Jesus, that experience has never left her (Luke 8:2). After that she would never forget Jesus' **voice** ever again.
- What moment could you look back to when God has intervened in your personal life. **Remember** that moment with thanksgiving the next time you are filled with tears (Eph. 5:20).


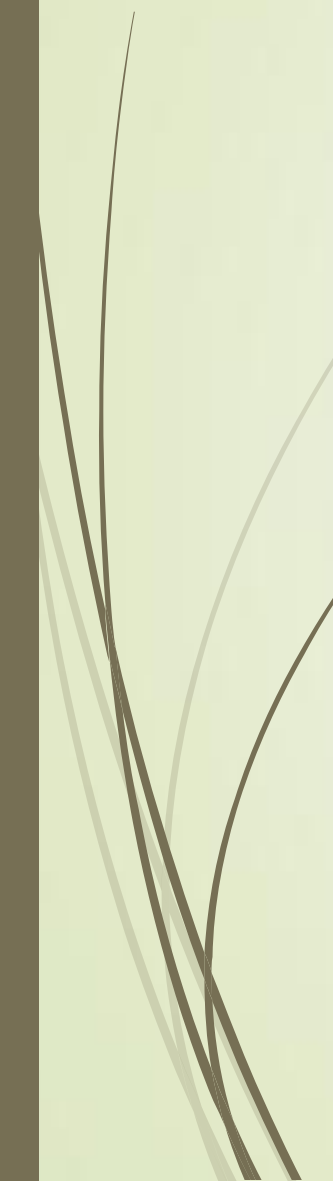
# Doubting Thomas

- Thomas was famous for his **doubt**. However, I think most people have overlooked Thomas' **heart** for Jesus. (read John 11:16)
- Clearly Thomas trusted Jesus enough to go with Him to great danger. He was **committed** even though he might not fully understand what Jesus was planning or doing. He had enough **faith** to follow.
- So why could he not believe Jesus was risen? It is not like Jesus had never told Thomas before...

## Thomas Was Trying to be Logical



- (see 14:5) He was **logical**, things must work out in his head for him to understand and trust. Are you like that?
- Thomas believed in Jesus and His prophecies in general, but he just could not “**work out**” the “resurrection thing” in his head.
- As far as Thomas was concerned, Jesus must mean something else when he spoke of His resurrection...

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- Can you believe in what appears to you as **impossible** according to your experience?
  - I am not asking you to abandon logic or critical thinking. This is actually very logical...God is **life** and the creator of life. He can raise anyone from the dead if He so chooses.
  - Sadly most people think they are being “logical”, but such “logic” was actually **clouded** by their own **experience** or limited **understanding**.
  - There are many things I accepted by faith too.
  - What about in your life? Can you believe that God can do the impossible according to His promises?

## Let Us See Jesus



- (Psalm 27:13) we all want to **see** the goodness of God and we know there is goodness of God. Here are some reasons why we don't see them:
- Either we are **overwhelmed** (fixated) by our sorrows and troubles
- Or we are **doubting** the goodness of God in this moment for this particular circumstance
- Let us see Jesus as **who He is**.