

Pastor Ron Case
5/1/11

“The Work of Faith”

“but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” (John 20:31)

*“...Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”
(Luke 18:8)*

First-fruit Testament

John 20:19-23 – (19) “On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, **Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’** (20) When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. **Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.** (21) Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’ (22) And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. (23) If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.’”

Thomas’ Testament

John 20:24-29 – (24) “Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, **was not with them when Jesus came.** (25) So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.’ (26) **Eight days later,** his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although 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, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.’ (28) Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ (29) Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? **Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**”

<p>Key Point: “Be Faithful unto death, and I will give you the Crown of Life” – Jesus (Revelation 2:10)</p>
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Response:

Is my faith based on 'Seeing' or 'Seeking'?

"By faith (*Moses*) left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible." (Hebrews 11:27)

Am I a 'joy-filled' person?

"Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and *rejoice with joy that is inexpressible* and filled with glory," (1 Peter 1:8)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)