Jesus had been speaking of His death, but His disciples thought He meant natural sleep.



So then He told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead,



"and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."



Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."



"You know the way to the place where I am going."

JOHN 14:4



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

JOHN 14:5



Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

JOHN 14:6



Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. **JOHN 20:24**



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."

JOHN 20:25



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!" 20:26



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 20:27



Thomas said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" **JOHN 20:28**



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

JOHN 20:29



Missing Thomas (20:24)







Doubting Thomas (20:25)



Thomas is frustrated by the new claims and is skeptical of risking his life for something not true.



When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted.



"Doubt is often an intellectual faith is overwhelmed by problems and questions. Unbelief is a moral KKEN WIEKSBE

problem: we want to believe, but the problem; we simply will not believe."



"Doubt says, 'I cannot believe! There are too many problems!' Unbelief says, 'I will not believe unless you give me the evidence I ask for!" RREN WIERSBE



Doubt can become one's permanent alibi regarding Jesus. But doubt is never legitimate as a permanent condition.



Exposing Thomas (20:27)



Jesus is accommodating to honest skeptics whose hearts are open to embrace the truth, but who wonder whether the evidence is sufficient.



Having an open mind, if it means ruling out judgment or any kind of conclusion, is a smokescreen. It's an unwillingness to reach a conclusion. At some point, a response is necessary.



"The purpose of an open mind is to close it." WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY

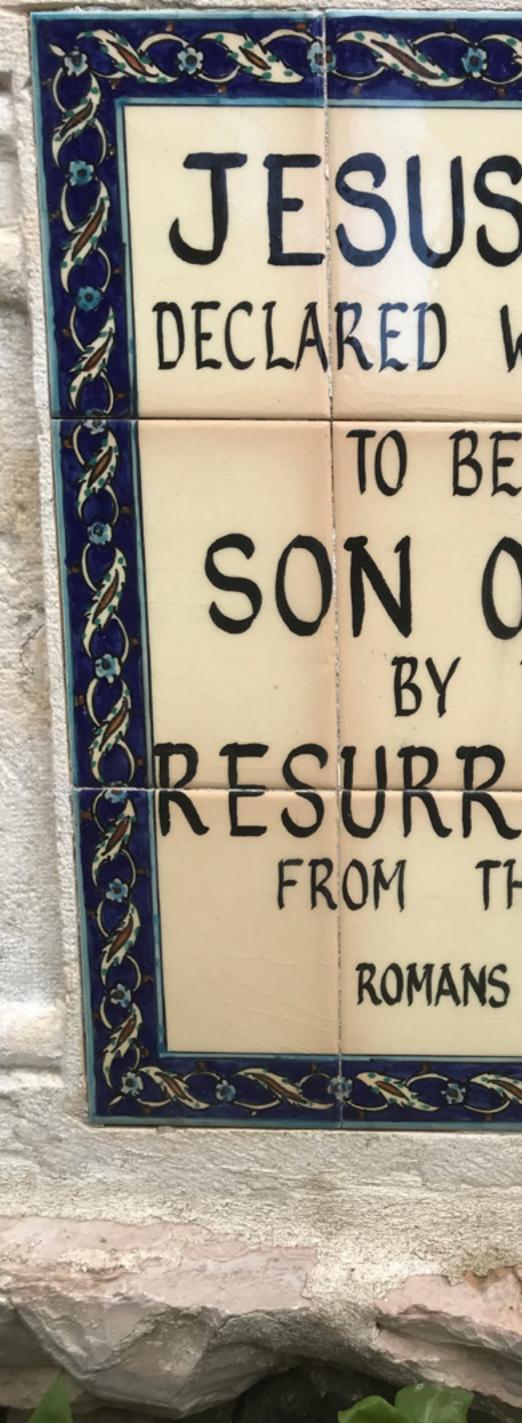


Confessing Thomas (20:28)



"Thomas' words are a personal confession of faith. John's readers, like Thomas, need to come to faith; and this is what coming to faith looks like."





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It is a "checkmate" moment. His objections have been answered.



It is a "checkmate" moment. His objections have been answered.

It is a "eureka" moment. He has finally seen what he had been hoping for.



It is a "surrender" moment. He puts himself in with the One who conquered death.



It is a "surrender" moment. He puts himself in with the One who conquered death.

Thomas put all his chips in with Jesus and exclaimed, "My Lord and my God!"



Jesus said, "You have now seen Him; in fact, He is the one speaking with you."

JOHN 9:37



Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped Him.

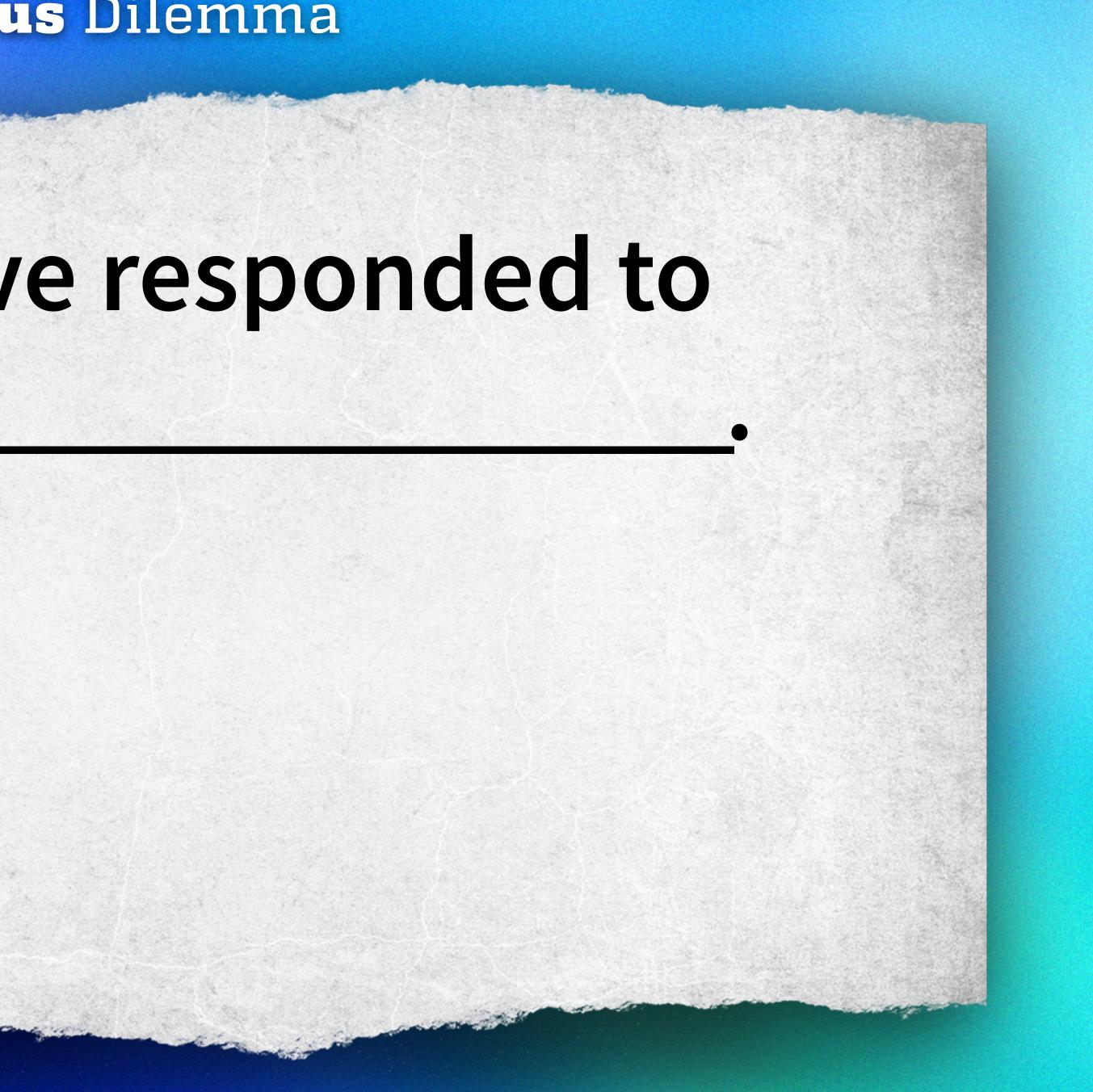
JOHN 9:38



When Thomas saw Jesus for who He is, Thomas surrendered his life to Jesus. What do you see? How do you respond?



Until today, I have responded to Jesus as



Until today, I have responded to Jesus as _____

Today, I declare in my heart and with my life that Jesus is



