

There and Then: Here and Now

Answer the questions below as you reflect on your own life and this part of our study*: *my LOG vs others SPECK*

S – Is there a *sin* for me to avoid or confess?

P – Is there a *promise* from God for me to claim?

E – Is there an *example* for me to follow?

C – Is there a *command* for me to obey?

K – How can this passage increase my *knowledge* about God / Jesus / Holy Spirit?

Use this area to write down any thoughts you may have and to develop an action plan for implementing them into your life.

Are there *principles* to guide?

Are there *warnings* to heed?

Are there *attitudes* to adopt?

Are there *actions* to take?

Who Is Jesus? – The Gospel of John

Why is the Resurrection Important?

Wiersbe¹ – The Resurrection is an essential part of the Gospel message (1Co 15:1-8) and a key doctrine in the Christian faith. It proves that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (Act 2:32-36; Rom 1:4) and that His atoning work on the cross has been completed and is effective (Rom 4:24-25). The empty cross and the empty tomb are God's "receipts" telling us that the debt has been paid. Jesus Christ is not only the Savior, but He is also the Sanctifier (Rom 6:4-10) and the Intercessor (Rom 8:34). One day He shall return as Judge (Acts 17:30-31).

Chapter 20

20:1-10 – The Empty Tomb

- **Wiersbe**² – It is significant that the first witnesses of the resurrection of Christ were *believing women*. Among the Jews in that day, the testimony of women was not held in high regard. 'It is better that the words of the Law be burned,' said the rabbis, 'than be delivered to a woman.' But these Christian women had a greater message than that of the Law, for they knew that their Savior was alive."
- **Jewish New Testament Commentary**³ – "The burial clothes consisted of a shroud around the body and a head-cloth (compare 11:44). Yochanan's [John's] painstaking description of their undisturbed location, especially the separate position of the still folded head cloth (v.7), tells us that Yeshua's [Jesus'] body was miraculously loosed from the burial clothes, so that they collapsed in place. This why **the other talmid** [disciple] ... **saw, and he trusted.**"

Meaning of Greek words for "Saw" in John 20:5-8

	Greek Word ⁴	Meaning
v5	G991 βλέπω, blepō, blep'-o	to look at, see
v6	G2334 θεωρέω, theōreō, theh-o-reh'-o	to look carefully, observe
v8	G3708 ὁράω, horaō, hor-ah'-o	to perceive with the mind or senses

20:11-18 – Jesus and Mary Magdalene

- Mary is crying, looks in and sees two angels, who ask why she was weeping
- **Wiersbe**⁵ – "The sorrow for the Christian, however, must be different from the hopeless sorrow of the world (1Th 4:13-18), because we have been born again 'unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead' (1Pe 1:3). We weep – not because our believing loved ones have gone to heaven – but because they have left us and we miss them."
- Mary turns away at this point but Jesus appears to Mary to comfort her

Bibliography

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- Strong, James. *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible: With Dictionaries of the Hebrew and Greek Words of the Original with References to the English Words*. e-Sword, 1890.
- Walvoord, John, and Roy Zuck. *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty: Old & New Testament*. Victor Books; e-Sword, 1983.
- Wiersbe, Warren. *The Bible Exposition Commentary: Matthew - Galatians*. Vol. 5. 6 vols. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books; SP Publications, Inc., 1989. Print.
- Zhodiates, Spiro, Warren Baker, and Gene Carpenter. *The Complete Word Study Bible and Dictionary Pack*. e-Sword, 1993.

* *Navigator Bible Study Handbook* (with additions) & Matthew 7:1-5.

1 (Wiersbe 387) on John 20.

2 (Wiersbe 388) on John 20:1.

3 (Stern) on John 20:5-8. English versions of Hebraic names in [].

4 (Wiersbe 388; Strong; Zhodiates, Baker, and Carpenter) on "saw"

5 (Wiersbe 389) on John 20:11.

- **Wiersbe**⁶ – “All He had to do was to speak her name and Mary immediately recognized Him. His sheep hear [recognize] His voice and He calls them by name (Joh 10:3).”
- Tells her to stop clinging to Him and to tell the disciples that He is going to ascend to the Father
- Wiersbe⁷ – “Historical faith says, 'Christ lives!' Saving faith says, 'Christ lives in *me!*'”

20:19-23 – Jesus appears to ten of the eleven disciples

- Jesus appears to the disciples
- He shows them His hands and His side to confirm it was He and He was risen
- They rejoiced as the sight of Him.
- Jesus commissions the disciples – see Mat 28; Mar 16
- Jesus breaths on them – “Receive the Holy Spirit.”
- **Wiersbe**⁸ – “As the early believers went forth into the world, they announced the good news of salvation. If sinners would repent and believe on Jesus Christ, their sins would be forgiven them! 'Who can forgive sins but God only?' (Mar 2:7) All that the Christian can do is announce the miracle of forgiveness. If sinners will believe on Jesus Christ, we can authoritatively declare to them that their sins have been forgiven; but we are not the ones who provide the forgiveness.”
- **Believer's Bible Commentary**⁹ – “The disciples go out preaching the gospel. Some people repent of their sins and receive the Lord Jesus. The disciples are authorized to tell them that their **sins** have been **forgiven**. Others refuse to repent and will not believe on Christ. The disciples tell them that they are still in their sins, and that if they die, they will perish eternally.”

20:24-25 – Thomas doubts

- **Wiersbe**¹⁰ – “Because Thomas was not there, he missed seeing Jesus Christ, hearing His words of peace, and receiving His commission and gift of spiritual life. He had to endure a week of fear and unbelief when he could have been experiencing joy and peace! Remember Thomas when you are tempted to stay home from church. You never know what special blessing you might miss!”
- **Wiersbe**¹¹ – “Thomas' words help us to understand the difference between doubt and unbelief. 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.' In fact, in the Greek text, there is a double negative: 'I positively will not believe!'”

6 (Wiersbe 390) on John 20:16.

7 (Wiersbe 391)

8 (Wiersbe 393) on John 20:23.

9 (MacDonald and Farstad) on John 20:23.

10 (Wiersbe 394) on John 20:24-25.

11 (Wiersbe 394) on John 20:25.

20:26-29 – Jesus appears to all eleven disciples

- “do not be unbelieving, but believing.”
- Joh 20:29 Jesus *said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."

What Jesus' Resurrection Meant

Person(s)	Change	Theme
Mary Magdalene	Tears to Joy	Love
The Ten Disciples	Fear to Courage	Hope
Thomas	Doubt to Assurance	Faith

20:30-31 – John's purpose for writing the gospel

- Believe Jesus is the Christ and in believing you may have life in His name.

Chapter 21

21:1-8 – The disciples go fishing

- Peter goes back to fishing and takes some of the others with him
- They catch nothing → Jesus tells them to try it on the other side of the boat → a great number of fish.
- John recognizes it is Jesus on the shore.

21:9-14 – Jesus provides breakfast

- Jesus had a fire ready and asked for some of the fish to cook them
- 153 – lots of possible symbols, probably just an accurate number
- **Believer's Bible Commentary**¹² – “There is no doubt that it speaks of the variety of those who would be saved through the preaching of the gospel—some from every tribe and nation.”

21:15-19 – Jesus restores Peter

- **Bible Knowledge Commentary**¹³ – “Three times **Jesus** commissioned **Peter** to care for the flock: **Feed My lambs; (Joh 21:15); Take care of My sheep (Joh 21:16); Feed My sheep (Joh 21:17)**. Some Roman Catholics assume that this asserts Peter's primacy, but this is foreign to the passage (cf. **1Pe 5:2**). In Jesus' three questions of **love** (*agapas, agapas, and phileis*) and His three commands of duty (*boske, "tend"; poimaine, "herd, lead to pasture"; boske*) various Greek synonyms are used. Since it is difficult to see any consistent distinctions that John intended, most scholars see these as stylistic variations.”

21:20-23 – Peter asks Jesus about John

- “If” is the key. – Don't worry about him, worry about yourself.

21:24 – The author of the gospel

- while the name is not given the author is identified.

21:25 – Jesus' many unrecorded life events

- This is only a portion of what Jesus did in His time on earth.

12 (MacDonald and Farstad) on John 21:11.

13 (Walvoord and Zuck) on John 21:15-17.