

The Words of Thomas

- * Thomas was far too human, and far too honest!
- * He wasn't satisfied with vague, pious words!
- Thomas was REAL! He responded by saying, "No Lord, we don't know where you are going and we do not know the way!" **John 14:1-6**

14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.

2 "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

4 "And where I go you know, and the way you know."

5 Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?"

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

- I. Jesus responded to Thomas! He said, "I am the way..."
 - A. The Jews talked much about the WAY in which men must walk!
 1. God said to Moses – **Deut. 5:32-33**

32 "Therefore you shall be careful to do as the LORD your God has commanded you; you

shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.

33 "You shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess.

2. Moses said to the people – Deut. 31:29

29 "For I know that after my death you will become utterly corrupt, and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the latter days, because you will do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger through the work of your hands."

3. Isaiah said – Is. 30:21

21 Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left.

4. David even asked of the Lord – Ps. 27:11

11 Teach me Your way, O LORD, And lead me in a smooth path, because of my enemies.

B. Since the Jews were familiar with the phrase “the way”, what did Jesus really mean?

1. Suppose someone gives you directions that go something like...*Go 1 ½ miles that way and turn*

left. Take that road 4 miles... or is it 3...anyway, then go over the hill and drive to the left until you get to the second right, etc.

2. Jesus didn't do that; He said come...I'll take you there!
3. He is not a sense of direction He is a relationship@
4. The "Way" is fulfilled in Jesus! **Rom. 8:3-4**

3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,

4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

5. The law pointed to the "way", Jesus "empowered" the way! **Gal. 5:14**

14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

6. John shows us the difference! **John 1:17**

17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

II. Jesus said, "...I am the truth..."

A. One of the great characteristics of our salvation, is that our Savior isn't the expounder or revealer of truth...He IS the embodiment of truth! **Col. 2:2-3**

***2 that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ,
3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.***

1. When we have Him, we have everything!
Friend, counselor, comforter, protector,
teacher and instructor!

2. **I John 2:20**

3.

20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things.

4. I know "what I need to know, when I need to know it."

B. We belittle our salvation and redemption by not fully understanding WHO lives in us!

1. May we be able to say like David - **Ps. 26:3**

***3 For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes,
And I have walked in Your truth.***

2. William Barclay said, *“Moral truth cannot be conveyed solely in words; it must be conveyed in example!”*
3. There is a difference in merely trying to change my behavior and trying to become like Him. **II Cor. 3:18**

18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

III. Jesus said, “...I am the life...”

A. The core of redemption is the restoration of my created purpose and position in the Lord!

1. The word for “life” is the Greek word “zoe”.
2. It literally means that God “breathed His life into me”!!!
3. It is a “re-do” of **Gen. 1:26-28**.

26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth

and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

4. We have been RESTORED!!

B. Only in Him can we live to our full potential of life!

1. We CAN live to our full potential because of
John 1:4-5

4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

2. We are complete in Him!