

Even today, if someone doesn't believe what he's told without seeing proof, he can be called a "doubting Thomas."

THOMAS

fisherman, follower of Jesus

He might have been a twin because his nickname was Didymus, which means "twin."

CLAIM TO FAME



He is known as "doubting Thomas" because when the other disciples told Thomas they had seen Jesus alive after His death, he doubted them. He wanted to see and touch Jesus for himself before he would believe.

Thomas always spoke up. When Jesus told the disciples that Lazarus had died and He planned to travel to Lazarus's home in Judea, the disciples tried to stop Him because the religious leaders there wanted to kill Him. Thomas was the only one who supported Jesus' plan, even if it meant dying with Him.

HOMELAND

Israel

WHERE IS IT NOW?

Israel

BACKGROUND

He was Jewish and possibly from Galilee, since he fished with the other disciples there after Jesus' resurrection.


SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

John 11; 14; 20



MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT

He couldn't believe that Jesus had come back to life. He missed the first appearance by Jesus when all the other disciples saw Him, so it was hard to grasp what they told him. Eight days later, Jesus suddenly appeared beside them in a locked room. He invited Thomas to touch the wounds on His hands and in His side to prove that it really was Him. Jesus told Thomas to stop doubting and believe.



Though Thomas refused to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead if he couldn't see and touch Him, more than 500 people saw Jesus after He was alive again. So Jesus told Thomas that people who can believe in Him without actually seeing Him are even more blessed.



JESUS' DISCIPLE

Hours before Jesus was betrayed, He told the disciples that He would be leaving them but that they knew the way to get to Him. Thomas asked the key question that Jesus answered with one of His most important statements: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6).