

John 20:28–29

**M**Y LORD, AND MY GOD,” saith Thomas. “Because thou hast seen Me, thou hast believed; blessed are they who have not seen, and yet have believed.” For this is of faith, to receive things not seen; since, “Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” And here He pronounceth blessed not the disciples only, but those also who after them should believe. “Yet,” saith some one, “the disciples saw and believed.” Yes, but they sought nothing of the kind, but from the proof of the napkins, they straightway received the word concerning the Resurrection, and before they saw the body, exhibited all faith. When therefore any one in the present day saith, “I would that I had lived in those times, and had seen Christ working miracles,” let them reflect, that, *Blessed are they who have not seen, and yet have believed.*

Heb. 11:1

St John Chrysostom, Homily LXXXVII on the Gospel of St John, NPNF, First Series, Vol. XIV, p. 327

John 12:26

**E**VERY ONE WHILE STILL EXISTING IN THIS BODY should already be aware that he must be committed to that state and office, of which he made himself a sharer and an adherent while in this life, nor should he doubt that in that eternal world he will be partner of him, whose servant and minister he chose to make himself here: according to that saying of our Lord which says “If any man serve Me, let him follow Me, and where I am, there shall My servant also be.” For as the kingdom of the devil is gained by consenting to sin, so the kingdom of God is attained by the practice of virtue in purity of heart and spiritual knowledge. But where the kingdom of God is, there most certainly eternal life is enjoyed, and where the kingdom of the devil is, there without doubt is death and the grave.

St John Cassian, *First Conference of Abbot Moses*, ch. xiv, NPNF, Second Series, Vol. XI, p. 301

PEARLS FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

WEEK OF THOMAS SUNDAY, APRIL 29 – MAY 5, 2013

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