

## **Books of the Book Series**

### ***The Gospel of John* Outline of Script for TV Production 3ABN Studios March 4-12, 2013**

#### **26. Resurrection and Conclusion (John 20:1-31)**

##### **26. Scene A. The Structure**

The big picture:

A critical turning point between 19 and 20

Farewell meeting (13-17)

Suffering and death (18-19)

The story seems “finished” (19:30)

The story is also unfinished

No resurrection, no Christian church

Resurrection —> gospel is good news

20-21 = resurrection and appearances

Chapter 20 contains four incidents related to the resurrection

Peter and the other disciple (1-9)

Mary Magdalene in the garden (10-18)

Appearance in the upper room (19-23)

Appearance to Thomas (24-29)

They confirm reality of resurrection

They confirm it was hard to believe without seeing

##### **26. Scene B. The Background: Appearances in General**

There were 11 post-resurrection appearances reported in NT

To Mary Magdalene (John 20:10-18; Mark 16:9-11)

To Mary and some other women (Matt 28:8-10)

To Peter by himself (1 Cor 15:5; Luke 24:34)

The road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35; Mark 16:12)

To ten disciples (John 20:19-23; Mark 16:14; Luke 24:36-43)

To ten and Thomas (John 20:24-29; 1 Cor 15:5)

To seven fishing disciples (John 21:1-23)

To eleven on a mountain (Matt 28:16-20)

Ascension appearance (Acts 1:3-11; Luke 24:44-49)

To 500 people (1 Cor 15:6)

To James (1 Cor 15:7)

The many witnesses served as a safeguard  
Not a made-up story  
Many stories could be compared (Luke 1:1-4)  
John the last living witness  
Greatest evidence of all = empty tomb  
Enemies had no motive to remove the body  
If they did, they could have produced it  
The disciples had no ability or intention  
Lack of courage before cross  
Slow to believe after  
Roman guard would prevent disciples  
Who would sacrifice life, family, respect for a silly hoax?  
Meaning  
If Jesus is raised, no other miracle is impossible  
Our resurrection is guaranteed by His  
Resurrection power brings healing now

**26. Scene C. Peter and the Other Disciple (John 20:1-9)**

John 20:1-9–

(1-2) Mary doesn't believe yet  
Peter bolder in action  
John deeper in thought, first to believe  
Model for second generation  
Put evidence together  
Believe without seeing  
Neither believed OT compelled resurrection

**26. Scene D. Mary Magdalene in the Garden (John 20:9-18)**

John 20:9-16–

Mary lingers weeping  
Two angels  
Then the gardener  
Both ask same question

John 20:13–

Mary clearly doesn't believe in resurrection at this point

John 20:14-15–

For the second generation  
Mary in the physical presence of Jesus  
Tears blind her to who Jesus is  
Personal presence no advantage  
Needs to hear the Word of Jesus

John 20:16-17–

Don't cling to the physical presence of Jesus

Ascension —> presence of the Spirit  
Jesus' words will bring life  
Calls disciples "brothers"  
    Earlier servants (13:16), disciples (13:35), friends (15:13)  
    Friends in spite of betrayal  
    Gracious character of God  
    Not like us

**26. Scene E. Appearance in the Upper Room ([John 20:19-23](#))**

Behind locked doors  
    Still probably don't believe  
        In spite of John and Mary  
        Need to see in order to believe  
Jesus offers peace  
Jesus breathes on them  
    Original creation (Gen 2:7)  
    Foretaste of Pentecost  
Physical presence of Jesus doesn't shield them from fear and perplexity  
    They need the Spirit  
    Then they can minister to world as Jesus does (forgive)  
        Gospel brings light and darkness  
        Judgment and forgiveness

**26. Scene F. Appearance to Thomas ([John 20:24-29](#))**

[John 20:24-25](#)—  
Thomas was not there the previous passage  
    Unwilling to accept the other disciples' testimony  
(John 20:26-27)  
    Jesus repeats "Peace be to you"  
    Repeats Thomas's words  
    But seeing is believing  
Review of who Thomas was  
    Not really the doubting one  
    Facts vs. faith  
    We must choose to believe  
[John 20:28-29](#)— "My Lord and my God"  
    Fitting counterpart to the Prologue  
    Jesus doesn't contradict but affirms  
    Blessing for those who draw the same conclusion without seeing  
    Blessing is for the second generation

**26. Scene G. Major Themes of John 20**

Slowness of disciples to believe

In spite of much evidence  
Empty tomb  
Physical presence of Jesus  
Testimony of John and Mary  
Testimony of the ten (G 2: 134-140)  
Second generation is anything but inferior  
They exceed the faith of the original disciples

Jesus doesn't reject people who have doubts  
Doubts must be honest  
People must be open to God's leading  
Good doubt can help us rethink difficult issues  
Better to doubt out loud than silently lose faith  
Open questioning better  
Than acceptance without thinking

Lesson for secular people  
Need time before they can grasp Resurrection  
Also who Jesus is and why He matters  
Need personal encounter with Jesus

Chapter 20 fulfills Farewell Discourse  
Jesus comes back as He promised  
He brings peace and joy  
He brings the Spirit  
He brings forgiveness