

“On Second Thought...”
John 20:19-29

Get out of Viet Nam... on 2nd thought...

The World was flat... on 2nd thought...

The Universe revolved around the earth...

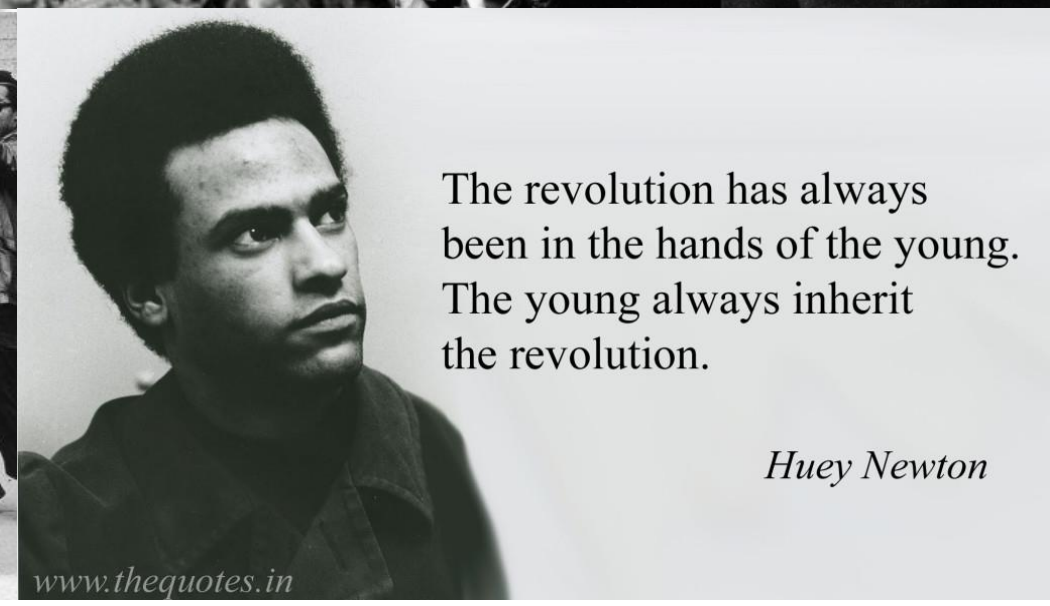
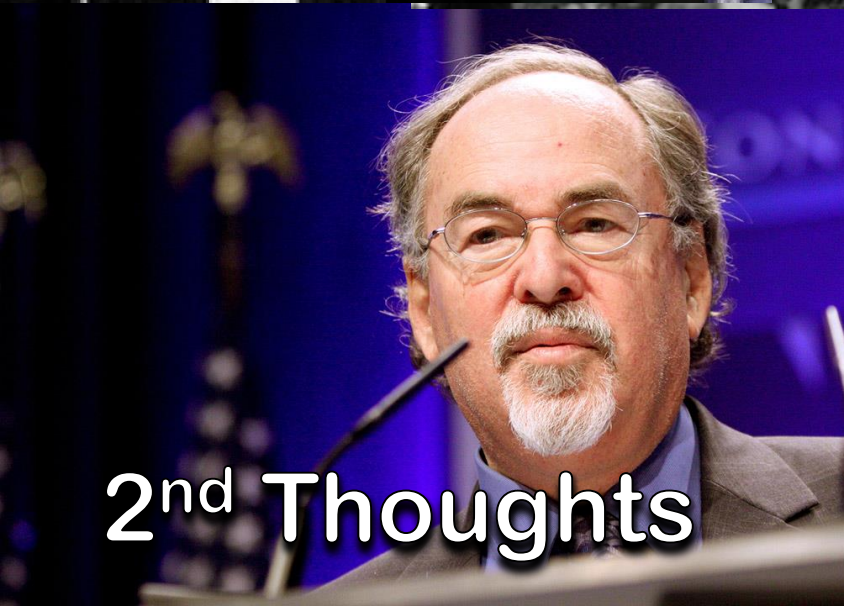
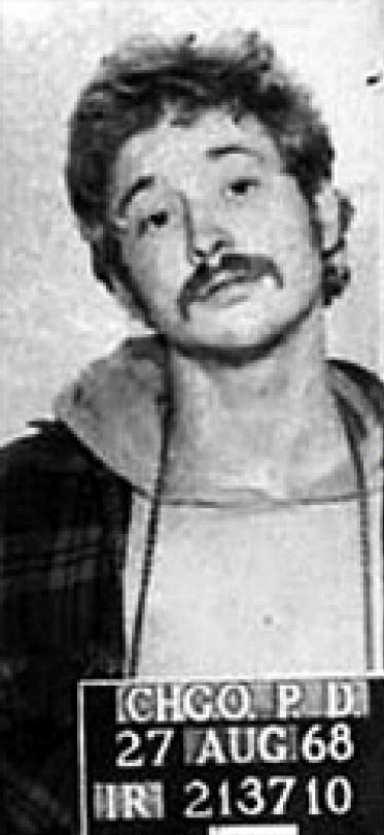
Leeches were the best cure for whatever...

An apple a day keeps the doctor away...

Our universe has always existed...

Our universe just spontaneously appeared ...

On 2nd thought... the Eternal God created...



The revolution has always been in the hands of the young. The young always inherit the revolution.

Huey Newton

2nd Thoughts

John 20:19-31 NLT

19 That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders.

Suddenly,

Jesus was standing there among them!

“Peace be with you,” He said.

šâlōm ‘ālêkem still in use today Asalam alikum

Invite Christ’s presence with them in the words,

Marana tha! ‘Come, O Lord!’, 1 Cor. 16:22b

- 20 As He spoke, He showed them **the wounds** in His **hands** and His **side**.
They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord!
- 21 Again He said, “**Peace be with you**.
As **the Father has sent me**,
so I am sending you.” Salt & Light
- 22 Then He breathed on them and said,
“**Receive the Holy Spirit**. Pneuma Hagion
- 23 If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven.
If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

24 One of the twelve disciples, **Thomas** (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came.

25 They told him, “**We have seen the Lord!**”

But he replied, “**I won't believe it unless I see** the nail wounds in His hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in His side.”

Mother Theresa:

The more I want [God], the less I am wanted.”

**Such deep longing for God—and...
repulsed, empty, no faith, no love, no zeal**

**[The saving of] souls holds no attraction.
Heaven means nothing.**

**Pray for me please that I keep smiling at Him
in spite of everything.”**

Job 9:16-17

“If I called and he answered me,
I could not believe that He was listening to my voice.
For He bruises me with a tempest
and multiplies my wounds without cause”

Jeremiah 20:7

Cried out to God in the face of persecution.
“O LORD, you have deceived me and I was deceived;
you have overcome me and prevailed. I have become
a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me”

It's one of the Surprising
facts of the Gospel:

Nobody Gets It Right

Where there is faith,
it seems there is also the possibility of doubt

How do we handle doubt?

1. We need to be honest

“I do believe; help my unbelief” (Mark 9:24).

2. Approach God with honesty, confessing our doubt, and our need for His help.

God does not want us to live by simply depending upon our feelings.

While feelings are important, they do not tell us what is real.

“And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength” (Mark 12:30).

3. Listen to your Believing friends

Thomas is to be commended because he doubted so that he could believe.

It was not a doubt that was destructive, but a doubt that led to a faith that would not fail him.

4. Far from a troubling secret that Christians must hide with shame, our doubts must always lead us to investigate, and then to respond.

26 Eight days later
the disciples were together again, and this time
Thomas was with them. **The doors were locked;**
but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing
among them. **“Peace be with you,”** He said.

27 Then He said to Thomas,
“Put your finger here, and look at **My hands.**
Put your hand into the wound in **My side.**
Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!”

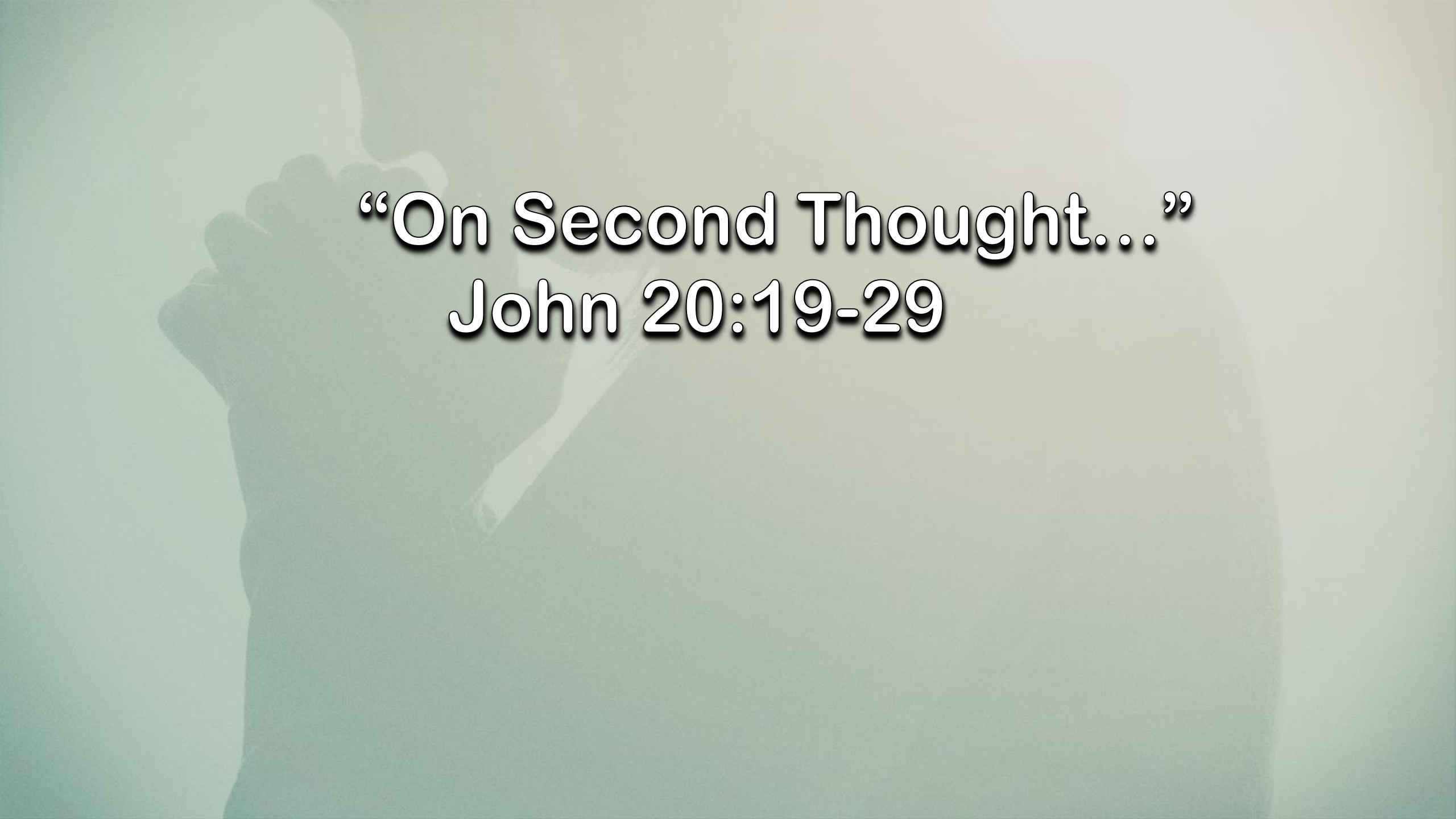
28 **“My Lord and my God!”** Thomas exclaimed.

29 Then Jesus told him,
“You believe because you have seen Me.
Blessed are those who believe
without seeing Me.”

He was an honest doubter: **He doubted his doubts**

30 The disciples saw Jesus do
many other miraculous signs
in addition to the ones recorded in this book.

31 But these are written
so that you may continue to believe
that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
& that by believing in Him
you will have life by the power of His name.



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