

SERMON OUTLINE DECEMBER 11, 2016

No Doubt! Matthew 11:1-11

INTRODUCTION: Some famous sayings about doubt . . .

I. THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS AS THEY SHOULD BE & DOUBTS COME

- A. John the baptizer had his doubts and so do we (Matthew 11:1-3)
- B. There was for John & there is for us a difference between expectations & reality
- C. John took his doubts to Jesus, and so can we (verses 2-3)

II. WHEN THINGS AREN'T AS THEY SHOULD BE & DOUBTS COME, JESUS STANDS WITH & FOR US

- A. Jesus responds to a confession of doubt:
 - 1. He assures (verses 4-5)
 - 2. He blesses (verse 6)
 - 3. He defends (verses 7-11)
- B. Jesus is no weakling; not just a cute baby in a manger (verses 7-9)
- C. Jesus calls <u>us</u> "greater than John the Baptizer" (verse 11)

III. SO, WHEN IN DOUBT... WHAT ARE WE TO DO? Jesus has taught us:

- A. Not to keep it inside or hidden
- B. Bring our doubts to Him, by our self or with the help of others
- C. He will never turn us away

CONCLUSION: *Our Christmas cross – no doubt about it!*