



**“LAZARUS,  
come forth!”**

**John 11:43**



**Chapter 11-Part 2**  
**Lazarus Raised From**  
**the Dead**

- Jesus raises Lazarus from the Dead
- “I AM the resurrection and the life”

## John 11

# Jesus Responds to Martha & Mary

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- **Climax Miracle** - Timing is important, just before the Cross
- John 11 assumes the reader has read **Luke 10:38-42**, the only recorded account of Mary and Martha in the Synoptics (before this event). Martha, Mary and Lazarus, appear to be special friends of Jesus <https://youtu.be/asCkkmaoZbA?list=PLcJVluhI8isJOKcvkIMhwj7Gv5769FqEJ&t=166>
- The anointing of Jesus' head and feet are events recorded in the four gospels. The account in Matthew 26, Mark 14, and John 12 has as its location the city of Bethany and involves Mary the sister of Martha and Lazarus. [https://youtu.be/B9OnzDMqpjo?list=PLcJVluhI8isJMzXK9iJ\\_UhJrcRu7lgtiN](https://youtu.be/B9OnzDMqpjo?list=PLcJVluhI8isJMzXK9iJ_UhJrcRu7lgtiN)
- V.4 – **Purpose of the Miracle** – to put the **Glory of God on display so people would come to believe that Jesus is the Christ.**
- 7<sup>th</sup> miracle in John – not just about His compassion and humanity, this miracle was necessary to put **His Full Power on Display.**

John 11:1-16

# Jesus Loved Lazarus

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- V.3 – “he who **You love** is sick” – love here is “phileo”, the love of a friend – human love. Jesus had deep affection for this man. **Shows the HUMANITY of Jesus**
- <sup>5</sup> Now **Jesus loved** Martha and her sister and Lazarus.
- 11 Our **friend Lazarus** sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up.”

## John 11:11-15

# Final Climatic Sign

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- Death for a believer, is sleep as far as the believer is concerned, because it is only the body that sleeps. Resurrection means the BODY, the soul never dies (sleeps)
- We will all die – but without the resurrection there is no hope
- V.15 – Jesus was glad He was not there when Lazarus died so they might believe. V.5 – Jesus purposely waited 2 days! He didn't raise him because Mary & Martha cried and were sad.
- **This indicates that Sickness, Pain and even Death is in the will of God for our lives.**
- 3 miracles of Jesus raising the dead – Jairus' daughter, and in Luke the son of the daughter from Nain. But in this case, Lazarus was dead for **FOUR DAYS!** (decomposition)

## John 11:9-10

# Jesus Loved Lazarus

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- V.9-10 Jesus says to the disciples, and to us! “**Are there not twelve hours in the day?** If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.”
  - **Jesus** meant to **say** that **there** was an allotted or appointed time for him to live and do his Father's will, represented here by the **12 hours** of the day. “His hour had not yet come” John 7:30 – Jesus was on God’s sovereign timetable to the Cross.
  - Nothing – no human or even Satan can shorten or lengthen your ordained life. Therefore why be an unfaithful coward vs. a bold and obedient disciple, since neither will shorten or lengthen your life.

## John 11:16

# Doubting Thomas shows Faith

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- John 20:28– Thomas is the doubter, but here he shows that he would be prepared to die for Jesus.
- Thomas says in v.16
  - <sup>16</sup> Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “**Let us also go, that we may die with Him.**”
- Thomas was both strong and weak, like all of us at times.
- Sometimes we have faith strong enough to Die for Jesus, other times we are weak in faith over small matters.
- “**Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!**” Mark 9:24 – Pray this often.

## John 11:17-36

# Why Did Jesus Wait 4 Days?

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- Jews believed that the soul of dead person hovered around the body for 4 days.
- Also, someone can only live 3 days without water or food, so 4 days was positive proof that Lazarus was dead.
- V.4 <sup>4</sup> When Jesus heard *that*, He said, “This sickness is not unto death, **but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it.**” (sound familiar? John 9:3-Blind Man was so the “works of God should be revealed in him”)
- V.41-42 And Jesus lifted up *His* eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. <sup>42</sup> And I know that You always hear Me, but **because of the people who are standing by I said *this*, that they may believe that You sent Me.**”

## John 11:17-36

# Jesus Wept

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- John 11:35 – “**Jesus wept.**” Shortest verse in the Bible
- Shows the **humanity and love of Jesus** – when you are hurting, grieving, in trouble – Jesus weeps with you- beautiful & breathtaking – meditate on this.
- Shocking revealing of God’s compassion (**Luke 19:41**)
- Closest moment of agony and sorrow that Jesus shows besides the Garden of Gethsemane



## John 11:38-44

# Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

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- The stone is rolled away
- Martha notes that the body would stink because of decomposition (4 days)
- Difference between the resurrection of Lazarus and Jesus...Jesus came out in a glorified body.
- Lazarus was not “resurrected” in the true sense of the meaning as it applies to Jesus, but more resuscitation.
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K\\_n6RKhWqs4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_n6RKhWqs4) – 3 min, Bethany
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NCElpammdFk> – 2 min, Cyprus
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iefyFvLuAw> – 4 min, Cyprus

## John 11:45, 46

# The Reaction of the People

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- This is the last public appearance of Jesus, but we are only half way through the book of John.
- **John spends as much time on the last 48 hours of Christ's life as he does on the first 33 years! Do you (when you share the Gospel – or are you ashamed)?**
  - **89 chapters in 4 gospels**
  - **4 Chapter of 1<sup>st</sup> 30 years**
  - **85 Chapters of last 3 years**
  - **27 chapters deal with the last week of His life.**
  - **Emphasis is on the Cross on the Resurrection**
- If you don't put the emphasis on the Death & Resurrection of Christ when you explain the Gospel, you are misrepresenting it. You should always tell people about the Cross.
- Even after this resurrection, some believed and some did not. **Luke 16:31**

John 11:45, 46

# The Reaction of the People

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## Believe versus Don't Believe?

- **17% of all people believe the Bible word-for-word**
- 31% of Christians believe word-for-word the Bible version, rising to 57% among "active" Christians
- **9% of non-religious people believe in the Resurrection**
- **25% of Christians surveyed said they did not believe in life after death or the resurrection of Christ!!**
- **Therefore at least 25% of “Christians” do not believe the gospel – SHOCKING!!!**
- **Church Leaders have failed to teach the most important doctrine in the Bible!!!**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-39153121>

# Spiritual Blindness

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- Unbelievers are spiritually blind and cannot see the truths of God.
- Jesus explained this in the story of the Rich Man & Lazarus in **Luke 16:31**, by saying is it was pointless to send his relatives someone raised from the dead in order to get them to repent.
  - “...**neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’ ”**

John 11:47, 48

# The Reaction of the Pharisees

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- **The enemy recognized the miracles Jesus did...**
  - Jesus performed thousands of unrecorded miracles, as He does today. Even the enemy could not deny it, but today many liberal students and pastors deny it. Unbelievable!
- **But they were afraid...the same as people today.**
  - They acted out of fear of losing their position and having to give up their sin and worldly pleasures.
  - Even today, people are afraid, ashamed, and do not even warn their friends of the consequences of not believing in Jesus.

John 11:49 - 57

# Caiaphas – Decides to Kill Jesus

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- V.51 – Ironically, Caiaphas made a **prophecy** that Jesus' should die for the nation, rather than Rome come against them.
- They were afraid of Rome, even though Rome ultimately destroyed them in 70AD
- V.53 – They plotted His death – the beginning of the end.
- The breaking point. They decide to kill Him just before Passover week begins, but Jesus leaves to give the disciples His final upper room discourse at the last supper.

## John 11

# Overall Take-Aways

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- People's response to Jesus – even though He raises the dead, spiritual blindness prevents people from seeing who He is.
- We sometimes cannot understand all of Jesus' teachings and ways...just like the disciples. That's ok, we don't need to understand, we just need to believe.
- God's will is not our will. Lazarus was sick and died to the glory of God. Yet despite Jesus' friendship with them, he waited. Even Mary and Martha wondered why Jesus didn't come sooner and questioned whether he cared...like we sometimes do when prayers aren't answered.
- Sometimes sickness and death in our lives is God's will, it's beyond our understanding, but God is always in control.

### **Isaiah 55:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> "For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts,  
Nor *are* your ways My ways," says the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> "For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth,  
So are My ways higher than your ways,  
And My thoughts than your thoughts.