

Jesus: The Resurrection and the Life

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John 11:1-27

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Jesus Leaves Jerusalem

- After persecution, Jesus left Jerusalem and went to where John^{1:28} baptized
- At least a full day's journey from Bethany
- Mary, Martha & Lazarus - beloved friends of Jesus

Jesus is Sent For

- Lazarus got very ill - sisters sent for Jesus
- Likely they had seen others healed and hoped Jesus would heal Lazarus
- Jesus didn't immediately set out - stayed 2 more days⁶
- Jesus has a plan for all of us - He loves us⁵ but that plan can be hard
- Jesus waits 2 days and then goes to Bethany
- Disciples see it as a fatal mistake⁸ and question Jesus

A Strange Answer

- Jesus speaks an agrarian illustration - 'you must work while you can'
- Jesus knows His time is getting short and this sign is important
- Disciples are almost clueless as to Jesus' plans

The Clueless Disciples

- Disciples think Jesus is speaking of sleep, not death¹³, Jesus clarifies¹⁵
- Thomas is ready to be martyred¹⁶
- Won't they be surprised at Jesus' plan for the salvation of sinners: the cross

Lazarus is Really Dead

- Lazarus has been dead for four days¹⁷ when Jesus arrives!
- Defeats rabbinic idea that spirit can hover for 3 days...
- Lazarus is 'all dead' not just 'mostly dead' - Jesus' miracle will be real!

Belief or Grief?

- Martha met Jesus when He got to Bethany - word would quickly spread...
- Martha met Jesus (action), while Mary stayed in quiet mourning
- Were Martha's words anger or belief? We don't know
- She believe that Jesus was sent from God - believed in resurrection²⁴

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

- 5th "I Am" saying of Jesus declaring Divinity^{Ex3:14}
- Jesus is our HOPE in life & death because He is the Resurrection & Life!
- Curse of Adam^{Gen2:16-17} reversed by Jesus' work as Second Adam^{1Cor15:45-49}
- Jesus shows us how to get resurrection life: *whoever believes in me*
- Everyone who believes in Jesus has already begun to experience eternal life
- Even though we die, we have eternal life^{2Cor5:8}

A Most Important Question

- Jesus asks, "Do you believe this?"
- Can you answer like Martha - Yes, I believe...
- John wrote this gospel that you might believe^{20:31}...
- Jesus grants mercy to save all sinners that come to Him^{6:37}, all those that the Father has given to Him^{6:39}
- Jesus came to redeem us unto eternal life!