

Jesus: The Resurrection

1. Discuss the friendship between Jesus, Lazarus, Mary, and Martha. What does it tell us about Jesus and His friendships? Do you think His friendship with the three siblings affected their respect for Him? Should spiritual teachers be friends of their students?
2. The sickness Lazarus experienced was a part of the plan to glorify the Son of God. What things have you seen take place that seem to be primarily to bring Glory to God? How does seeing God work in this way affect our thinking and attitude?
3. What do you think about Jesus' decision to stay two more days? How would people interpret such action? How do we know that God still loves us even when He seems to take His time?
4. What does it mean to "walk in the day" (v. 9)?
5. What awaited Jesus when He finally arrived? How long had Lazarus been dead? What is significant to you concerning the fact that people were still comforting Mary and Martha four days after Lazarus' burial? Does it seem that our culture mourns differently? How?
6. Share some ideas about how our culture anticipates the resurrection.
7. Jesus is the resurrection (v. 25). What does this mean to us? How should it impact our lives? How can we apply this truth to Resurrection Sunday (Easter)?

¹Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. ²It was that Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. ³Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick."

⁴When 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."

⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was. ⁷Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."

⁸The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?"

⁹Jesus answered, "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. ¹⁰But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." ¹¹These things He said, and after that He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up."

¹²Then His disciples said, "Lord, if he sleeps he will get well." ¹³However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep.

¹⁴Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him."

¹⁶Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

¹⁷So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. ¹⁹And many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.

²⁰Now Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. ²¹Now Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."

²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. ²⁶And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

A Voice that Raised the Dead

Read: John 11:28-57**Monday**

28-31 — Why do you think Martha went secretly to Mary? Would you like to have a group of people following you to help you weep? What are some of the advantages of having some alone time? What are advantages to having time with others while mourning? What do you think will be the first thing that Mary says to Jesus?

Tuesday

32-37 — Mary's statement in verse 32 showed faith and a lack of faith. Explain. Why do you think Jesus groaned in His spirit and wept? What did the Jews conclude? What do you think concerning their question in verse 37?

Wednesday

38-42 — Why do you think that there was a stone over the tomb? Why do you think Martha thought it important to instruct Jesus? What is an example where you felt compelled to make sure that Jesus knew something? How did Jesus answer her (v. 40)? Why did Jesus pray aloud?

Thursday

43-48 — How would you describe what happened when Jesus commanded Lazarus to come out? Do you think that this would be enough for everyone to believe in Jesus? Why did some go to the Pharisees (v. 46)? What did the Pharisees fear? Who did they think gave them their positions? How were they wrong?

Friday

49-52 — What does it mean that Caiaphas did not speak on his own authority? Does God use sinful vessels at times? What things can you do to avoid being a vessel of dishonor? What is the prophecy and how did it come true?

Saturday

53-57 — Why do you think that Jesus ceased to walk openly? What was the plan of those that had plotted the death of Jesus? What significance do you see considering the timing with the Passover? What does this tell you about the Pharisees? What does this tell you about God?