

# A Voice that Raised the Dead

1. What are some observations about Jewish mourning that you have from this text? How is that similar or different from our culture? Are there more things we can do as believers for those who have lost loved ones?
2. Why did Jesus groan? What reason did the Jews give for His tears?
3. Why were they concerned about opening the tomb? What did this convey about their faith? Compare this to some things that we do not want God to open in our lives (for certainly there are dead things in there that stink).
4. Why did Jesus pray aloud? What was His biggest desire? How does that affect our priorities?
5. Why did Lazarus need to be loosed? How do you imagine he looked?
6. Why do you suppose some did not believe after such a display of power?
7. What do you think about the prophecy of Caiaphas the high priest? What does this tell us about how God works?

<sup>26</sup>And when she had said these things, she went her way and secretly called Mary her sister, saying, "The Teacher has come and is calling for you." <sup>27</sup>As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly and came to Him. <sup>28</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come into the town, but was in the place where Martha met Him. <sup>29</sup>Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there."

<sup>30</sup>Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

<sup>31</sup>Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. <sup>32</sup>And He said, "Where have you laid him?"

They said to Him, "Lord, come and see."

<sup>33</sup>Jesus wept. <sup>34</sup>Then the Jews said, "See how He loved him!"

<sup>35</sup>And some of them said, "Could not this Man, who opened the eyes of the blind, also have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>37</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone."

Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."

<sup>38</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" <sup>39</sup>Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. <sup>40</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." <sup>41</sup>Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" <sup>42</sup>And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with grave clothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go."

<sup>43</sup>Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him. <sup>44</sup>But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them the things Jesus did. <sup>45</sup>Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? For this Man works many signs. <sup>46</sup>If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation."

<sup>47</sup>And one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, <sup>48</sup>nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish." <sup>49</sup>Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, <sup>50</sup>and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad.

<sup>51</sup>Then, from that day on, they plotted to put Him to death. <sup>52</sup>Therefore Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there into the country near the wilderness, to a city called Ephraim, and there remained with His disciples.

<sup>53</sup>And the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went from the country up to Jerusalem before the Passover, to purify themselves. <sup>54</sup>Then they sought Jesus, and spoke among themselves as they stood in the temple, "What do you think—that He will not come to the feast?" <sup>55</sup>Now both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given a command, that if anyone knew where He was, he should report it, that they might seize Him.

Jesus: Our King

**Read: John 12:1-26**

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**Monday**

1-3 — Notice the person doing the serving. How does this compare with Luke 10:38-42? What was Martha's attitude? Mary's attitude? What does this tell us that Jesus wants from us?

**Tuesday**

4-6 — Judas was the treasurer. What was his plan for the money? Why do you think that Judas was tempted to betray Jesus? How much is 300 denarii? Was this a big sacrifice on Mary's part? What of value are you willing to give—just so that Jesus looks or smells good?

**Wednesday**

5-13 — Why had Lazarus become a celebrity? Why were the Jews wanting to kill Lazarus? What event do we celebrate that is described in verses 12 and 13? What do you think the Jews expected of the King? Is it easier to worship with a multitude?

**Thursday**

14-18 — From where is verse 15 quoted? How do you think people would respond to such a humble ride? Is witnessing easier in groups? Describe a time when you were able to share your faith while part of a team.

**Friday**

19-22 — What did the Pharisees want to see accomplished? Why do you think the Greeks wanted to see Jesus? Why do you think Philip told Andrew rather than going directly to Jesus? How can a friend help you communicate to others?

**Saturday**

23-26 — What is the significance of the seed dying then producing? How does this apply to Jesus? What do you think of verse 25? What are some ways in which you are serving Jesus?

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