

## Jesus' Response at the Death of Lazarus

John 11:1-27

### The Death of Lazarus

<sup>1</sup> Now a certain *man* was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> It was *that* Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. <sup>3</sup> Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick." <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." <sup>5</sup> Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup> So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was. <sup>7</sup> Then after this He said to *the* disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup> *The* disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?" <sup>9</sup> Jesus 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. <sup>10</sup> But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." <sup>11</sup> These things He said, and after that He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up." <sup>12</sup> Then His disciples said, "Lord, if he sleeps he will get well." <sup>13</sup> However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep. <sup>14</sup> Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup> And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him." <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."

### I Am the Resurrection and the Life

<sup>17</sup> So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. <sup>19</sup> And many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup> Now Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. <sup>21</sup> Now Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You." <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup> Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. <sup>26</sup> And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup> She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

### Questions:

1. What do we learn about Mary and Martha in our previous study in Luke 10:38-42? Why does John jump ahead here saying this was the Mary who "anointed the Lord" with fragrant oil (this happens later in John 12)?
2. With such an urgent message sent to Jesus, why does He not seem to respond urgently? (v 4-6) Why was the sickness not unto death?
3. Why does v 5 tell how much Jesus loved them? Why then does Jesus wait two more days before leaving? What did Jesus have in mind by waiting until after Lazarus died to answer the sisters' plea?
4. What is the immediate concern of the disciples when He suggests going back to Judea (the home of Mary and Martha was in Bethany very close to Jerusalem)?
5. What does Jesus mean by needing to walk in the daylight in v 9-10? Does He mean that it is still "day" and therefore it is safe for them to go to Bethany at this time (that His "hour" has not come)? (Compare this with John 9:4)
6. Why does Jesus say Lazarus is "sleeping" but then explain to the disciples that he was dead? Why was Jesus glad they were not present when Lazarus died?
7. How does Thomas react when Jesus lets them know He is definitely now ready to go to Lazarus who is now dead?
8. Why is it important to mention the fact that Lazarus had now been dead four days? v 17 How may the many people at Martha's home be explained?
9. Which sister came out to meet Jesus? In spite of her sorrow, what is her overall attitude? (Keep in mind this is the sister which Jesus had gently corrected in their home in Luke 10:38-42)
10. How does Jesus first encourage Martha, and then challenge her faith to see He is not merely speaking of the last day? What should we learn from His great statement "I am the Resurrection and the Life"?