

The Gospel of John: The Resurrection & Life

John 11:1-44

Lazarus (v. 1-16)

- While Jesus is ministering near the Jordan, He receives word that His friend Lazarus is sick
 - Though his sisters are mentioned throughout each Gospel, only John mentions Lazarus by name (Mt 26:6-13; Mk14:3-9; Lk 10:38-42)
- Jesus doesn't immediately leave but waits 2 days
 - He assures the disciples that the sickness will not *end* in death
- The disciples warn Him of the danger of returning to the region
 - Because Bethany is less than 2 miles from Jerusalem
 - He replies that it's time to be light in darkness
- Jesus tells them that Lazarus has died and that He is going to use his death to reveal who He is

Martha (v. 17-27)

- When Jesus arrives, Lazarus has been dead 4 days
 - Jesus waited to come to ensure there was no question whether Lazarus was truly dead
- Lazarus' sister Martha insists that Jesus could have healed her brother's sickness
 - He assures her that Lazarus will live again
 - She thinks He means the resurrection of all on the Last Day
 - He clarifies that He is the Resurrection & the Life
 - Jesus is the one who can give new life
- Martha declares her faith in Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God (v. 24; cf. 20:31)

Mary (v. 28-37)

- Lazarus' other sister, Mary, also declares Jesus' ability to have prevented his death
- When He sees Mary & others weeping in despair, His response is frustration
 - They were mourning like those who have no hope, like resurrection was a reality (1 Thes 4:13)

The Final Sign (v. 38-44)

- Jesus commands that the stone be removed from the tomb despite the protests over the smell
- He prays aloud so that the crowd can hear
- He calls out for Lazarus to come out of the tomb
- Lazarus comes out alive!
 - The linen used for embalming still wrapped around him
- In this final sign, Jesus shows He is the source of resurrection life (Jn 5:28-29)

So What?

- Jesus alone offers new life
 - Have we trusted Him for it?
- He is the God of new beginnings!

Meditation Verse: John 11:25

Next Week: John 11:55-12:11