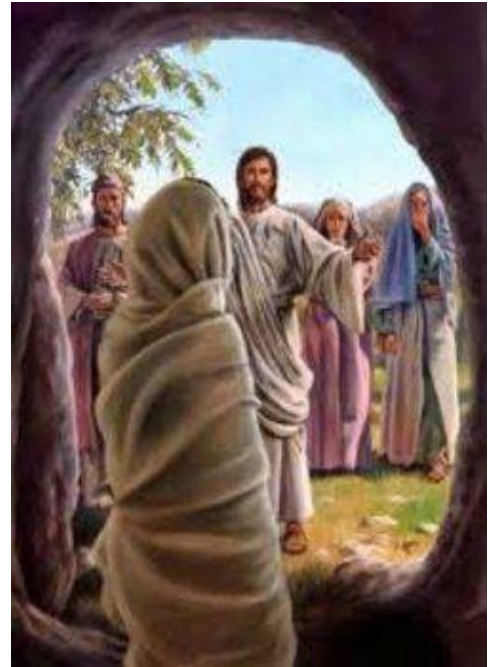




Lesson 19

# Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

*John 11:1-45*



Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. (this event would come later, but John is writing well after the fact so he helps his readers identify the correct Mary)

<sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup> But when Jesus heard it he said, "**This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.**"

**John 9:1-3**

As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him."

<sup>5</sup> Now Jesus **loved** Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup> So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, **he stayed two days longer 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, the Jews were just now seeking 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 anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." <sup>11</sup> After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." <sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." <sup>13</sup> Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. <sup>14</sup> **Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died,** <sup>15</sup> **and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."** <sup>16</sup> So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

<sup>17</sup> Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had **already been in the tomb four days.** <sup>18</sup> Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup> and **many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother.** <sup>20</sup> So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup> 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 from 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 on the last day.**" <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "**I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,** <sup>26</sup> **and everyone who 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 coming into the world.**"

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went and **called her sister Mary, saying in private**, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” <sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> **When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.** <sup>32</sup> Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, **“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”** <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, **he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.** <sup>34</sup> And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup> **Jesus wept.**

Hebrews 4:15

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

1 Thessalonians 4:13

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

<sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, **“See how he loved him!”** <sup>37</sup> **But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”**

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, **deeply moved again**, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.” <sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, **“Father, I thank you that you have heard me.** <sup>42</sup> **I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.”** (cf. “to the glory of God” and purpose of all of Jesus’ miracles) <sup>43</sup> When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come

out.” <sup>44</sup> The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

<sup>45</sup> Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him,

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<sup>46</sup> but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. <sup>47</sup> So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. <sup>48</sup> If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.” <sup>49</sup> But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all. <sup>50</sup> Nor do you understand that it is better for you that **one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.**” <sup>51</sup> He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, <sup>52</sup> and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. <sup>53</sup> So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

<sup>54</sup> Jesus therefore no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there to the region near the wilderness, to a town called Ephraim, and there he stayed with the disciples.

<sup>55</sup> Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. <sup>56</sup> They were looking for<sup>[f]</sup> Jesus and saying to one another as they stood in the temple, “What do you think? That he will not come to the feast at all?” <sup>57</sup> Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him.

**Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. <sup>3</sup> Mary therefore took a pound<sup>[a]</sup> of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair.** The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> “Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii<sup>[b]</sup> and given to the poor?” <sup>6</sup> He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said, “Leave her alone, so that she may keep it<sup>[c]</sup> for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me.”

<sup>9</sup> When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus<sup>[d]</sup> was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>10</sup> So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, <sup>11</sup> because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

<sup>12</sup> The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> So they took branches of palm trees...



1. Jesus has power over death. His raising from the dead miracles—Jarius’ daughter, Youth at Nain, Lazarus—prove this. The ultimate declaration of this truth came on Easter morning.
2. We see Jesus grieving and know Him as our Savior/High Priest who has lived this life and knows our sorrows firsthand.
3. Old and New Testaments both speak of the resurrection through Jesus.
4. Even though Lazarus died, God used that sad event for His glory and purpose of saving souls.
5. Historically—we are at the point in Jesus’ ministry where opposition and hatred to Him have grown hot, setting the stage for His suffering and death.