

# THE RESSURECTION

BEHIND EVERY DIET, EXERCISE PROGRAM AND ALL THE COSMETIC WE BUY TO ENHANCE OUR LOOKS IS THE DESIRE FOR A NEW BODY.

2CORN 5:1-8 IF THIS EARTHEN HOUSE OF THIS TABERNACLE BE DESOLVED

JOHN 10:10 THE THIEF COMETH BUT TO STILL KILL, AND TO DESTROY

1CORN 15:55 O, DEATH WHERE IS THY STING, O, GRAVE WHERE IS THY VICTORY

MATT 10:28 FEAR NOT HIM THAT CAN ONLY KILL THE BODY.

2COR 5:6-8 ABSENT FROM THE BODY PRESENT WITH THE LORD

PHIL 1:21 TO LIVE IS CHRIST TO DIE IS GAIN

PS 23:4 YE THOU I WALK THROUGH THE SHADOW OF DEATH

JOB 1:21 NAKED CAME I INTO THE WORK, LORD GOD GIVE, LORD GOD TAKETH AWAY

1CORN. 15:51-55 I SHOW YOU A MYSTERY WE SHALL NOT ALL SLEEP

PHIL 1:22-23 LIVE IS CHIRST TO DIE IS GAIN

MATT 22:31-32 THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, ISSAC, JACOB, "THE GOD OF THE LIVING AND

# Another Body

Behind every diet, exercise program, the cosmetics we buy is the desire for a new body. And God has granted that desire

- John 10:10 the thief cometh but to still kill, and to destroy
- Job 1:21 naked came i into the work, lord god give, lord god taketh away
- 2corn 5:1-8 another building
- Ps 23:4 ye thou i walk through the shadow of death
- 1Corn 15:51-55 a mystery reveled
- 2Corn 12:1-4 Caught up into the 3rd heaven
- Phil 1:22-23 To live is Christ to die is gain
- John 14:1-4 It's really true
- Matt. 22:23-33 The God of the Living
- John 11:25-26 Never Die

# The Purpose of Lazarus' Sickness

- (John 11:1-3) Lazarus was sick. Jesus had said, “the foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man hath not where to lay his head” (Matthew 8:20; Luke 9:58). At this particular time Jesus was being rejected by almost everyone. Apparently He was an unwelcome guest in most homes. He was walking about preaching and proclaiming that He was One with God, the Son of God Himself. John 10:22-42, John 10:22-42).
- Just imagine a man making such a claim. He was thought to be “mad” and devil-possessed (Mark 3:20-21; Luke 4:25).
- His own family was even having difficulty with Him at this time. They were apparently so embarrassed by His claims and the rumors of His insanity that on one occasion they travelled a great distance to bring Him home lest He be harmed. Matthew 12:46-50, Matthew 12:46-50.



# First Purpose

- However, there was one family who always opened its home to Jesus when He was in and around Jerusalem—the family of Lazarus, Martha, and Mary, who were brother and sisters. They lived in Bethany, a suburb about two miles outside Jerusalem. Their closeness to Jesus is the reason the sisters felt so free to interrupt His evangelistic tour with the request to help their sick brother. Jesus' great love for this family should be noted throughout this passage.
- John 11:4 the first purpose of Lazarus' sickness was to glorify God and to proclaim that Jesus is the Son of God. Lazarus' sickness was not *for* death. He was to die *for* the glory of God and Christ. He was sick, and he was to die so that the works of God could be demonstrated. Lazarus died so that...
- **God could be glorified...**
- **Christ could be glorified...**

# God Could Be Glorified

By showing His desire for man to have life

By proving His power to give life

By showing His approval of Christ by which He proved that He really did love the world enough to send His Son to save the world By having the opportunity to do the work of God

## - **Jesus Could Be Glorified**

By demonstrating God's power

By showing compassion

By strengthening the belief of believers

By leading unbelievers to believe

In raising Lazarus from the dead both Jesus and His Father were glorified as the *Life* of the world. In dealing with the blind man, both were glorified as the *Light* of the world (John 9:3, 5, John 9:5)

# The Second Purpose

- John 11:5) The second purpose of Lazarus' sickness was to show Jesus' great love. Note: each member of the family is mentioned personally. He loved the family, but He also loved each one individually. This is a fact in the Scripture that needs to be stressed, for each one had a need, and each one needed and received the help of Jesus. Lazarus' death gave Him the opportunity to demonstrate His great love not only for the families of the world, but for each individual in the world. (John 10:3). (John 13:1) (John 15:9). (Romans 8:35). (Galatians 2:20).

**“Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren” (1 John 3:16).**

# The Third Purpose

- John 11:6 : The third purpose of Lazarus' sickness was to show the necessity for *waiting upon God* in great crises. Jesus was not waiting two days so that Lazarus would die and He could perform a great miracle. Jesus knew that Lazarus was either already dead or that Lazarus was going to die on the very day the person brought word of Lazarus' illness. We know this because Lazarus had already been buried four days when Jesus arrived in Bethany (John 11:17, 39). Jewish burial immediately followed death. The four days would be counted from...the day of travel by the messengers in bringing word to Jesus (John 11:3). the two days needed for Jesus to complete His ministry (John 11:6). the day or two needed by Jesus to travel to Bethany (John 11:17).
- The point is this: Martha and Mary were learning to wait upon God throughout the whole experience. In facing severe illness or death, there is no answer but to wait upon God. Jesus knows when to act. He knows the exact moment, the best time...
  - · for us to bear the trial.
  - · for us to stand.
  - · for us to be helped.
  - · for us to learn the most.
  - · for us to bear testimony of God's power and strength.
- Whenever that moment arrives, the Lord arises and meets the need of the believer. What the believer must do is what Martha and Mary had to do: learn to *wait upon God*. The Lord will arise and act at the right moment.

# The Forth Purpose

- (John 11:7-10) The fourth purpose of Lazarus' sickness was to teach the need to grasp opportunity. It had been three days since Jesus had received word of Lazarus' illness. Jesus now said it was time to go into Judaea, for Bethany was in the district of Judaea. The disciples protested, for it was the Judaeans who had stood so opposed to Jesus and had threatened to kill Him (John 10:31). The disciples could not believe their ears. Why would Jesus jeopardize their lives?
- Jesus' answer was forceful and it stands as a great lesson for all of us. There are only twelve hours in a day. Jesus must walk, that is...go and do His work while it is day. go and do what is right, regardless of the danger. go and do what is right lest the day pass and the opportunity be lost. (Cp. John 9:4.)
- If Jesus had walked in the dark and failed to work and failed to do what He knew to be right, He would have stumbled. He would have shown that there is no light in Him. The idea is, of course, that there is light in Him. He knew the work to be done and the right thing to do, so He must go into Judaea. (John 4:34). (John 9:4) (Romans 13:11-12) (Ephes. 5:16). (Col. 4:5).
- Note the term, "the Light of this world." Jesus is "the Light of this world." A person has only twelve hours, only a certain amount of time to see "the Light of the world." Once the night comes, the opportunity is lost.
- Note also the statement, "There is no light in him [a man]." Man has no light within. All he can do is walk...



# Death— Jesus Christ, Power

- (11:11-14) **Death— Jesus Christ, Power:** the fifth purpose of Lazarus' sickness was to show Jesus' great power over death. Jesus stated very plainly what He was going to do. Lazarus was asleep; therefore, He would go and awaken Lazarus out of his sleep. However, the disciples misunderstood what Jesus was saying. *By sleep* Jesus meant that Lazarus was dead, but the disciples thought He meant that Lazarus was resting in sleep. Note that Jesus gave His meaning of sleep: "Lazarus is dead." Note four significant things.
- 1. Jesus called Lazarus "our friend." He was dead, but he was still "our friend." This is a hint that Lazarus is still a friend despite being dead, that he is still living, still alive in another world. Note the strong feelings Jesus had for this believer, Lazarus.
- **Thought 1.** Jesus' love reaches out for every believer just as much as it did for Lazarus. Jesus calls every believer His friend. And note the words "*our friend*." Every believer is to be the friend of all other believers. There is to be a sweet fellowship between all believers.
- 2. Jesus predicted that He would raise Lazarus from the dead. He would "awaken" and resurrect him. This is a picture of the resurrection of believers (cp. John 11:23-26).
- **"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" (John 11:25).**
- **"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation" (John 5:28-29).**
- 3. The disciples misunderstood. Many still do. They misunderstand the meaning of death and the resurrection.
- 4. Jesus said that death is as "sleep" (see Deeper Study #1—John 11:13).

# Hope— Resurrection

- (11:15) **Hope— Resurrection**: the sixth purpose of Lazarus' sickness was to help strengthen the disciples' belief. Jesus said an astonishing thing: He was rejoicing that He was not in Bethany when Lazarus was sick. Why? Jesus joyed over what was to happen. Lazarus was to be raised from the dead, which meant that every thoughtful believer, both then and in succeeding generations, would experience a great leap in faith.
- **Thought 1**. The glorious event of Lazarus' resurrection stirs the heart of sincere seekers, for it pictures the most glorious hope of life possible. Jesus Christ has the power to give life and to raise the dead (John 5:24-29; 1 Thes. 4:13f; 1 Cor. 15:1-58). Any follower of Christ who truly experiences the scene of Lazarus' resurrection is bound...
  - · to take a great leap in faith.
  - · to have his faith stirred to new heights.
  - · to see his faith grow progressively.

# Courage— Loyalty

- (11:16) **Courage— Loyalty**: the seventh purpose of Lazarus' sickness was to stir the disciples' courage and loyalty. Note that Thomas took the lead here. He showed great courage and loyalty to Christ, a dynamic example for every believer. He demonstrated...
  - · a deep love for Christ, a love that was ready to die for Him.
  - · a willingness to stand and to die with his fellow believers in the Lord's work.
  - · a knowledge that to die for Christ is better than to live without Him.
    - **"For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God" (John 16:27).**
    - **"Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity" (Ephes. 6:24).**
    - **"Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory" (1 Peter 1:8).**

# Jesus Christ, Ministry— Compassion

- . (11:17-20) **Jesus Christ, Ministry— Compassion**: the scene was Bethany, a suburb of Jerusalem about two miles away. When Jesus arrived, someone told Him that Lazarus had already been buried for four days (see note—§John 11:6). Jesus did not actually enter the city of Bethany. He apparently stayed on the outskirts of the city. Just why we are not told. Perhaps the multitude following Him was too large to crowd into the city, or perhaps He was simply avoiding those who were so bitterly opposed to Him. There was an enormous number of mourners who had come to comfort the family, and some of these were opposed to Jesus (John 11:46).
- Whatever the reason for remaining on the outskirts of the city, Jesus apparently sent a messenger to tell Martha that He had arrived (cp. John 11:28). As soon as she heard, she quietly left the house and ran out to meet Him. (Cp. John 11:28 for what apparently happened with Martha as well as Mary.) Mary, however, remained at home.
- Note the striking contrast between Martha and Mary, a contrast that is ever so characteristic. Martha was the woman of action and energy, the one loaded with initiative; therefore, she was the one who went out to meet Jesus. Mary was the contemplative and meditative one; therefore, she remained at home to receive the mourners (cp. Luke 10:38-42).
- **2. (11:21-22) Faith**: Martha's complaining, limited faith in Jesus. Martha believed in Jesus. She even believed that Jesus could have healed Lazarus and kept him from dying. But Jesus had not come immediately when He was called; therefore, her brother was dead. Why did Jesus not come when He was called? Why did He not heal Lazarus, when she and the family loved Jesus so much and had done so much for Him? Why did He let Lazarus die?
- The point is this: Martha did believe in Jesus, but her faith was a complaining faith. She did not believe to the point of *resting* in faith. She did not believe with an *unlimited and resting faith*. She was not entrusting the matter completely into the Lord's hands. She was not yet convinced that what had happened was for the best. She trusted Jesus as her Savior, but she questioned what had happened. She complained and even reproached Jesus.
- A complaining, questioning faith is a *limited faith*. It is a faith that questions Jesus' Lordship...
- · that questions if Jesus has done what is best.
- · that questions if Jesus knows what is best.
- It says to Jesus, "If you had been here, if you had acted differently, if you had done this or that, then this trial would not have happened." Note that Martha was convicted immediately for having complained and reproached Jesus. She blurted out:
- **"But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee" (John 8:22).**
- But note even here how her *limited faith* showed itself. She did not say, "Lord, I know that you can do anything you will." She said, "Whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee." She was still *limiting* Jesus to some level below God. She was not grasping that Jesus Himself was the Resurrection and the Life. She had a *complaining, limited faith* in Jesus.

# Faith— Resurrection

- (11:23-24) : Martha’s fundamental faith. Jesus made a striking declaration, “Thy brother shall rise again.” He could have said it no clearer. Lazarus was to arise from the dead.
- Martha misunderstood. She thought Jesus meant that Lazarus would arise in the resurrection at the last day.
- 1. Note that Martha had a *fundamental faith*. She believed in the resurrection, one of the fundamentals of the faith. She believed what Jesus had taught, and He had been drilling the resurrection into His followers (cp. John 5:28-29; John 6:39-40, 44, 54; John 12:48).
- 2. Martha’s fundamental faith experienced disappointment. The promise of a future resurrection and reunion is not always a comfort. Her loved one was gone. There was now no contact and no relationship with him, not on this earth. Everything about her life was now completely changed. Her household was radically different. She believed in the resurrection and believed in all the fundamentals of the faith, but the resurrection was so far in the future, it was of little comfort to her then.
- The point is this: a *fundamental faith* is essential. A person must believe in the fundamentals of the faith, but a fundamental faith is short—it is not all there is to faith and to our life in Christ. It is not a living faith, not a faith that lives in the presence of Christ. And what is so desperately needed by man is what was needed by Martha: a living faith, a faith that is alive and vibrant, dynamic and moving, conscious and acting, communicating and fellowshiping. What is needed is the knowledge that Jesus, the very One who stands before us, *is* “the resurrection and the life.”

# Jesus Christ, Claim— Faith— Heaven— Death

- (11:25-27) **Jesus Christ, Claim— Faith— Heaven— Death**: Martha's declared faith.  
Note three points.
- 1. Jesus' great claim: "I Am the resurrection and the life." Here is a critical fact: Jesus did not say that He *gives* the resurrection and life to man, but He *is* the Resurrection and the Life. Jesus, of course, does give the resurrection and life to believers; but His point is not this fact. His point is far more important. Jesus declared that He is the very being and essence, the very power and energy of life. Therefore, He can...
- ·give and sustain life as He wills.
- ·resurrect and restore life as He wills.
- This is a phenomenal claim. It means that man—in fact all of life—exists only by the will and power of Jesus. Being the power and energy of life, Jesus is the Source of all life. There is nothing existing apart from His will; therefore, if a dead person wishes to live, only Jesus can give him life. And if a living person does not wish to die, only Jesus can keep him from dying.



# Jesus' Two Great Promises

- “He that believeth in me, though he die , yet shall he live.” He lives in the other world: in heaven, in the spiritual dimension of being, in the very presence of God Himself. The believer who has passed from this world is not some place...
  - ·in some semi-conscious state.
  - ·in a deep sleep, locked up in some compartment someplace.
  - ·in space moving about and floating around on a fluffy cloud.
- The believer is fully alive: he lives in heaven, in the other world, in the very presence of God Himself. Another world exists just as this world exists. It is not a world that lies out in the future; it is a world that exists now—a spiritual world—a spiritual dimension—a world that the Bible calls heaven. It is the spiritual world and dimension where God and Christ and angels and all those who have gone on before now live.
- The point is this: when a person who has *believed in Jesus* dies, he goes to live in heaven, in the spiritual world where God and Christ and the heavenly hosts live. *Hallelujah!* Only the word hallelujah can express the hope and joy that fills the soul of the true believer.





# The second Great Promise

- “Whoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.” The idea is that the believer shall never taste death, that is, never experience death. Quicker than the believer can blink an eye, he passes from this world into the next world. He is transported and transferred into heaven. The believer never loses a single moment of consciousness. One moment he is conscious and living in this world; the next moment he is conscious and present in the next world. There is only one difference. He is immediately perfected: transformed, made perfect, made much more conscious and aware, more knowledgeable and alive than ever before. (See Deeper Study #1—2 Tim. 4:18; for more discussion. Also see Deeper Study #2—John 1:4; Deeper Study #1—John 10:10; Deeper Study #1—John 17:2-3.)

# FIRST PROMISE IN THE BIBLE

- That the seed of the woman would bruise the head of the serpent. Gen. 3:15
- Christ was that seed and he crushed Satan's authority (head) in this earth realm (world) when he cried out from the cross, "**It is finished.**" **What was finished?**
- He settled my sin debt at the cross, Jesus stamped it paid in full. He freed us from the power and penalty of sin. {Col 2:13-15}  
He took the sting out of death and robbed the grave of its victory. 1Corn. 15:55  
He closed escrow on this world and took back the title deed to creation.  
Then He instructed his Church to take possession..
- Jesus declared upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I give unto thee the keys to the kingdom and what you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven and what you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven.  
Matt 16:16-18