

Raises Lazarus

Bethany

John 11:1-54

¹ Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.

有一個患病的人，名叫拉撒路，住在伯大尼，就是馬利亞和他姐姐馬大的村莊。

² (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)

這馬利亞就是那用香膏抹主，又用頭髮擦他腳的；患病的拉撒路是他的兄弟。

³ Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.

他姐妹兩個就打發人去見耶穌，說：主阿，你所愛的人病了。

⁴ When Jesus heard that, he said, **This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.**

耶穌聽見，就說：這病不至於死，乃是為神的榮耀，叫神的兒子因此得榮耀。

⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.

耶穌素來愛馬大和他妹子並拉撒路。

⁶ When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.

聽見拉撒路病了。就在所居之地仍住了兩天。

⁷ Then after that saith he to his disciples, **Let us go into Judaea again.**

然後對門徒說：我們再往猶太去罷。

⁸ His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?

門徒說：拉比，猶太人近來要拿石頭打你，你還往那裡去麼？

⁹ Jesus answered, **Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world.**

耶穌回答說：白日不是有十二小時麼？人在白日走路，就不至跌倒，因為看見這世上的光。

¹⁰ **But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.**

若在黑夜走路，就必跌倒，因為他沒有光。

¹¹ These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, **Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.**

耶穌說了這話，隨後對他們說：我們的朋友拉撒路睡了，我去叫醒他。

¹² Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well.

門徒說：主阿，他若睡了，就必好了。

¹³ Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep.

耶穌這話是指著他死說的，他們卻以為是說照常睡了。

14 Then said Jesus unto them plainly, **Lazarus is dead.**
耶穌就明明的告訴他們說：拉撒路死了。

15 **And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him.**

我沒有在那裡就歡喜，這是為你們的緣故，好叫你們相信。如今我們可以往他那裡去罷。

16 Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellowdisciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him.
多馬，又稱為低土馬，就對那同作門徒的說：我們也去和他同死罷。

17 Then when Jesus came, he found that he had lain in the grave four days already.
耶穌到了，就知道拉撒路在墳墓裡已經四天了。

18 Now Bethany was nigh unto Jerusalem, about fifteen furlongs(*1/8 mile*) off:
伯大尼離耶路撒冷不遠，約有六里路。

19 And many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.
有好些猶太人來看馬大和馬利亞，要為他們的兄弟安慰他們。

20 Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house.
馬大聽見耶穌來了，就出去迎接他；馬利亞卻仍然坐在家裡。

21 Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.
馬大對耶穌說：主阿，你若早在這裡，我兄弟必不死。

22 But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.
就是現在，我也知道，你無論向神求甚麼，神也必賜給你。

23 Jesus saith unto her, **Thy brother shall rise again.**
耶穌說：你兄弟必然復活。

24 Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.
馬大說：我知道在末日復活的時候，他必復活。

25 Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:**

耶穌對他說：復活在我，生命也在我。信我的人雖然死了，也必復活，

26 **And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?**
凡活著信我的人必永遠不死。你信這話麼？

27 She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

馬大說：主阿，是的，我信你是基督，是神的兒子，就是那要臨到世界的。

28 And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, The Master is come, and calleth for thee.

馬大說了這話，就回去暗暗的叫他妹子馬利亞，說：夫子來了，叫你。

²⁹ As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly, and came unto him.

馬利亞聽見了，就急忙起來，到耶穌那裡去。

³⁰ Now Jesus was not yet come into the town, but was in that place where Martha met him.

那時，耶穌還沒有進村子，仍在馬大迎接他的地方。

³¹ The Jews then which were with her in the house, and comforted her, when they saw Mary, that she rose up hastily and went out, followed her, saying, She goeth unto the grave to weep there.

那些同馬利亞在家裡安慰他的猶太人，見他急忙起來出去，就跟著他，以為他要往墳墓那裡去哭。

³² Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

馬利亞到了耶穌那裡，看見他，就俯伏在他腳前，說：主阿，你若早在這裡，我兄弟必不死。

³³ When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled.

耶穌看見他哭，並看見與他同來的猶太人也哭，就心裡悲歎，又甚憂愁，

³⁴ And said, **Where have ye laid him?** They said unto him, Lord, come and see.

便說：你們把他安放在那裡？他們回答說：請主來看。

³⁵ Jesus wept.

耶穌哭了。

³⁶ Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him!

猶太人就說：你看他愛這人是何等懇切。

³⁷ And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?

其中有人說：他既然開了瞎子的眼睛，豈不能叫這人不死麼？

³⁸ Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

耶穌又心裡悲歎，來到墳墓前；那墳墓是個洞，有一塊石頭擋著。

³⁹ Jesus said, **Take ye away the stone.** Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days.

耶穌說：你們把石頭挪開。那死人的姐姐馬大對他說：主阿，他現在必是臭了，因為他死了已經四天了。

⁴⁰ Jesus saith unto her, **Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?**

耶穌說：我不是對你說過，你若信，就必看見神的榮耀麼？

⁴¹ Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, **Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.**

他們就把石頭挪開。耶穌舉目望天，說：父阿，我感謝你，因為你已經聽我。

42 And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.

我也知道你常聽我，但我說這話是為周圍站著的眾人，叫他們信是你差了我來。

43 And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, **Lazarus, come forth.**

說了這話，就大聲呼叫說：拉撒路出來！

44 And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, **Loose him, and let him go.**

那死人就出來了，手腳裹著布，臉上包著手巾。耶穌對他們說，解開，叫他走！

45 Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him.

那些來看馬利亞的猶太人見了耶穌所做的事，就多有信他的；

46 But some of them went their ways to the Pharisees, and told them what things Jesus had done.

但其中也有去見法利賽人的，將耶穌所做的事告訴他們。

47 Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, What do we? for this man doeth many miracles.

祭司長和法利賽人聚集公會，說：這人行好些神蹟，我們怎麼辦呢？

48 If we let him thus alone, all men will believe on him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation.

若這樣由著他，人人都要信他，羅馬人也要來奪我們的地土和我們的百姓。

49 And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all,

內中有一個人，名叫該亞法，本年作大祭司，對他們說：你們不知道甚麼。

50 Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not.

獨不想一個人替百姓死，免得通國滅亡，就是你們的益處。

51 And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation;

他這話不是出於自己，是因他本年作大祭司，所以預言耶穌將要替這一國死；

52 And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad.

也不但替這一國死，並要將神四散的子民都聚集歸一。

53 Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death.

從那日起，他們就商議要殺耶穌。

54 Jesus therefore walked no more openly among the Jews; but went thence unto a country near to the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and there continued with his disciples.

所以，耶穌不再顯然行在猶太人中間，就離開那裡往靠近曠野的地方去，到了一座城，名叫以法蓮，就在那裡和門徒同住。

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Bethany

John 11:1-54

CONNECTION

Jesus moved from Bethabara in Perea to Bethany, near Jerusalem, as the result of an appeal from His friends, Mary and Martha, sisters of Lazarus. In the week or two of His activities in Perea He had stirred up considerable commotion. The rank and file of the people as usual responded to His appeal and looked with great favor upon His works. But the leaders who had a selfish interest in the established regime 政權 preferred to let their people suffer the consequences of their ignorance rather than surrender their traditions, and they lost no opportunity to prevent their being impressed with His message.

When the messenger arrived with word from His friends in Bethany, even though it was a message of distress, it brought to His great heart the assurance of their love and trust, and no doubt He himself was comforted in spirit.

John's gospel is the only one which records the raising of Lazarus. Read the entire chapter carefully, keeping in mind that this incident climaxed the forces which were rapidly driving Him toward Calvary. The raising of Lazarus has been called Christ's crowning miracle. It is the last before the miracle of His own resurrection, and with the exception of that greatest of all miracles it is the climax of all the signs which John gives to prove that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

In the three cases where Jesus raised the dead (*the young man in Nain, Jairus's daughter and Lazarus*), He said of two of them that they were not dead (*Jairus's daughter and Lazarus*). In the third no mention is made of it. The first two had just died, and Lazarus had been dead four days, but we are not told that putrefaction 腐化 had set in, although Martha presumed that this must be so.

Jairus' daughter sleepeth

Matthew 9:24	Mark 5:39	Luke 8:52
He said unto them, Give place: for the maid is not dead, but <u>sleepeth</u> . And they laughed him to scorn. 就說：退去罷！這閨女不是死了，是睡著了。他們就嗤笑他。	And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but <u>sleepeth</u> . 進到裡面，就對他們說：為甚麼亂嚷哭泣呢？孩子不是死了，是睡著了。	And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is not dead, but <u>sleepeth</u> . 眾人都為這女兒哀哭捶胸。耶穌說：不要哭。他不是死了，是睡著了。

Lazarus sleepeth

John 11:11	These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus <u>sleepeth</u> ; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. 耶穌說了這話，隨後對他們說：我們的朋友拉撒路睡了，我去叫醒他。
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Concerning this remarkable incident there are a few questions that are difficult to answer: why did Jesus not go to Bethany at once? how did He know the sickness was not unto death? how did He find out Lazarus was dead? why did God allow all this suffering so that this miracle might be performed?

Many have felt that this should have happened to a family of sinners, for whom suffering might have been justified; or in the home of one of the Pharisees; or, better still, one of the Sadducees who disbelieved in a resurrection, and where the demonstration would have received wide publicity among the very class that denied such a possibility. But such as these would not have called upon Jesus, and if He had raised one of their dead they probably would not have told of it. **Jesus can only work through those who will come to Him.**

The miracle left a profound impression upon some of the Jews who were with Mary and Martha. When they returned they told the leaders what they had seen, and while the chief priests and Pharisees seemed convinced that Jesus was doing wonderful things, they realized His growing popularity would become dangerous to their position and system, and they unanimously voted to put Him to death, the high priest prophesying that He should die for the people: not only their nation but all the world. "Jesus therefore walked no more openly among them, but went thence into a country near to the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim."(vs. 54)

Jesus went to Ephraim

John 11:54	Jesus therefore walked no more openly among the Jews; but went thence unto a country near to the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and there continued with his disciples. 所以，耶穌不再顯然行在猶太人中間，就離開那裡往靠近曠野的地方去，到了一座城，名叫以法蓮，就在那裡和門徒同住。
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DISCUSSION

John introduces his record of the restoration of Lazarus from the dead by telling of the friendship of Jesus for the little family at Bethany - Martha, Mary and Lazarus (vs. 5). Mary is distinguished as the one who was memorialized by her act of poured out love in anointing Jesus for his burial, with the box of precious ointment.(vs. 2; Jn. 12:3)

Martha, Mary and Lazarus

John 11:5	Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. 耶穌素來愛馬大和他妹子並拉撒路。
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Mary is distinguished as the one who anointed Jesus for His burial

John 11:2 (It was that <u>Mary</u> which <u>anointed</u> the Lord with ointment, and <u>wiped his feet with her hair</u> , whose brother Lazarus was sick.) 這馬利亞就是那用香膏抹主，又用頭髮擦他腳的；患病的拉撒路是他的兄弟。	John 12:3 Then took <u>Mary</u> a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and <u>anointed the feet of Jesus</u> , and <u>wiped his feet with her hair</u> : and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment. 馬利亞就拿著一斤極貴的真哪噠香膏，抹耶穌的腳，又用自己頭髮去擦，屋裡就滿了膏的香氣。
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Mary was memorialized by her act of poured out love

Matthew 26:6-13 ⁶ Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, 耶穌在伯大尼長大癩瘋的西門家裡， ⁷ There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very	Mark 14:3-9 ³ And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head.	John 12:1-8 ¹ Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. 逾越節前六日，耶穌來到伯大尼，就是他叫拉撒路從死裡復活之處。
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precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat at meat.

有一個女人拿著一玉瓶極貴的香膏來，趁耶穌坐席的時候，澆在他的頭上。

⁸But when his disciples saw it, they had indignation, saying, "To what purpose is this waste?"

門徒看見就很不喜悅，說：何用這樣的枉費呢！

⁹For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor."

這香膏可以賣許多錢，賙濟窮人。"

¹⁰When Jesus understood it, he said unto them, "Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me.

耶穌看出他們的意思，就說：為甚麼難為這女人呢？他在我身上做的是一件美事。

¹¹For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always.

因為常有窮人和你們同在；只是你們不常有我。

¹²For in that she hath poured this ointment on my body, she did it for my burial.

他將這香膏澆在我身上是為我安葬做的。

¹³Verily I say unto you, Whersoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her."

我實在告訴你們，普天之下，無論在甚麼地方傳這福音，也要述說這女人所行的，作個紀念。

耶穌在伯大尼長大癲瘋的西門家裡坐席的時候，有一個女人拿著一玉瓶至貴的真哪噠香膏來，打破玉瓶，把膏澆在耶穌的頭上。

⁴And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, "Why was this waste of the ointment made?"

有幾個人心中很不喜悅，說：何用這樣枉費香膏呢？

⁵For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor."

And they murmured against her. 這香膏可以賣三十多兩銀子賙濟窮人。他們就向那女人生氣。

⁶And Jesus said, "Let her alone; why trouble ye her? she hath wrought a good work on me.

耶穌說：由他罷！為甚麼難為他呢？他在我身上作的是一件美事。

⁷For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always.

因為常有窮人和你們同在，要向他們行善隨時都可以；只是你們不常有我。

⁸She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying.

他所作的，是盡他所能的；他是為我安葬的事把香膏預先澆在我身上。

⁹Verily I say unto you, Whersoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her."

我實在告訴你們，普天之

²There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him.

有人在那裡給耶穌預備筵席；馬大伺候，拉撒路也在那同耶穌坐席的人中。

³Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.

馬利亞就拿著一斤極貴的真哪噠香膏，抹耶穌的腳，又用自己頭髮去擦，屋裡就滿了膏的香氣。

⁴Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him,

有一個門徒，就是那將要賣耶穌的加略人猶大，

⁵"Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence/denarii, and given to the poor?"

說：這香膏為甚麼不賣三十兩銀子賙濟窮人呢？

⁶This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.

他說這話，並不是掛念窮人，乃因他是個賊，又帶著錢囊，常取其中所存的。

⁷Then said Jesus, "Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this.

耶穌說：由他罷！他是為我安葬之日存留的。

⁸For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always."

因為常有窮人和你們同在，只是你們不常有我。

下，無論在甚麼地方傳這福音，也要述說這女人所作的，以為記念。

(A denarius was a day's wage for a laborer)

The short message which the sisters sent to Jesus when their brother became seriously ill portrays a beautiful trust: "He whom Thou lovest is sick."(vs. 3) It is not a request, but a love appeal. They were confident of His response, and no doubt they expected Him to come sooner than He did. But after receiving the message He remained two days right where He was, with His disciples. This delay was deliberately planned. The death of Lazarus was to be made the occasion for the glory of God, the same as in the case of the blind man (Jn. 9:3), and Jesus knew the sickness was "not unto death."(vs. 4) He therefore took His time in departing, although He was aware of the fact when death occurred. We can imagine the deep sorrow and anguish of heart of the two sisters during these days of waiting, perhaps also of doubts concerning the Master's delay.

"He whom Thou lovest is sick"

John 11:3	Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick. 他姐妹兩個就打發人去見耶穌，說：主阿，你所愛的人病了。
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The blind man

John 9:3	Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. 耶穌回答說：也不是這人犯了罪，也不是他父母犯了罪，是要在他身上顯出神的作為來。
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"not unto death"

John 11:4	When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby. 耶穌聽見，就說：這病不至於死，乃是為神的榮耀，叫神的兒子因此得榮耀。
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After two days Jesus said to His disciples "Let us go again into Judea,"(vs. 7) but they remonstrated^{諍諫} with Him, reminding Him that the Jews there had sought to stone Him. He answered "Are there not twelve hours in the day?"(vs. 9) etc. He would tell them that He could not come to His death before His time. **One who walks in the light, in response to God's will has His protection until that will is accomplished.** But afterward He told them "Our friend Lazarus sleepeth."(vs. 11) This would indicate that Lazarus was known and loved by the disciples as well as by the Lord. But they misunderstood the word "sleepeth." The word sleep is used in both Old and New Testament as a metaphor^{隱喻} of death, but they thought the crisis of the disease had passed and Lazarus was sleeping; therefore they saw no reason for Jesus to return to Judea where He would be in danger. Seeing their confusion Jesus dropped the metaphor and said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead."(vs. 14) And for their sakes, He said, He was glad He was not there, that it might be an occasion to increase their faith. He knew from the beginning that He would "awake him from sleep."(vs. 11) Every such occasion was part of the preparation of those He was to leave behind to carry on His work after He should go to be with His Father.

"Let us go again into Judea"

John 11:7	Then after that saith he to his disciples, Let us go into Judaea again. 然後對門徒說：我們再往猶太去罷。
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"Are there not twelve hours in the day?"

John 11:9	Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world. 耶穌回答說：白日不是有十二小時麼？人在白日走路，就不至跌倒，因為看見這世上的光。
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"Lazarus is dead"

John 11:14	Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead. 耶穌就明明的告訴他們說：拉撒路死了。
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When Jesus reached the neighborhood of Bethany, Lazarus had been dead and in the grave four days. Probably two days were occupied on the journey, and it was two days before He started. It was about twenty-five miles from Bethabara to Bethany, and Bethany was about two miles from Jerusalem.

Before Jesus came into the town news was brought to the sisters of His approach, and Martha, true to her character, was the one who hurried out to meet Him, while Mary sat still in the house, with the Jews who had come to sit with the mourners and comfort them. When Martha met Jesus she expressed great faith. She cried, "Lord if thou hadst been here!"(vs. 21) but - "even now I know that Thou canst do something."(vs. 22) However, her faith was challenged when Jesus said to her that her brother would rise again. She thought only of the last resurrection. This drew from Jesus that immortal exclamation which has comforted mourners ever since: "I am the Resurrection and the life!"(vs. 25) Martha acknowledged Him as the Son of God and the expected Messiah, but it seems her faith did not reach to a present resurrection.

" even now..."

John 11:22	But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee. 就是現在，我也知道，你無論向神求甚麼，神也必賜給你。
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"I am the Resurrection and the Life!"

John 11:25	Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 耶穌對他說：復活在我，生命也在我。信我的人雖然死了，也必復活，
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As soon as Mary knew Jesus was calling for her she hurried out to meet Him, with the same exclamation: "Oh if Thou hadst been here!"(vs. 32) The Jews thought she was going out to the grave to weep, and they followed her. When Jesus saw Mary weeping, and the Jews also, He himself wept and groaned within himself, saying "let us go to him."(vs. 15)

"if Thou hadst been here"

John 11:21	John 11:32
Then said <u>Martha</u> unto Jesus, <u>Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.</u> 馬大對耶穌說：主阿，你若早在這裡，我兄弟必不死。	Then when <u>Mary</u> was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, <u>Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.</u> 馬利亞到了耶穌那裡，看見他，就俯伏在他腳前，說：主阿，你若早在這裡，我兄弟必不死。

"Let us go to him"

John 11:15	And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him. 我沒有在那裡就歡喜，這是為你們的緣故，好叫你們相信。如今我們可以往他那裡去罷。
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"Jesus wept!"(vs. 35) His humanity alongside the supreme demonstration of His divinity! This little jewel of two words, in its setting of human tragedy and sorrow, has been the wonder of all who read this poignant生動的 story. "So nigh is grandeur崇高 to our dust; so near is God to man!"(Quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson) Even the Jews were moved by His loving compassion, and said "Behold, how He loved him!"(vs. 36) But some

wondered why He had allowed Lazarus to die when He had such power, showing either sarcasm 諷刺 or a real faith in His divine power.

*So nigh is grandeur to our dust, So near is God to man,
When Duty whispers low, Thou must, The youth replies, I can!*

"Jesus wept"

John 11:35	Jesus wept. 耶穌哭了。
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"Behold, how He loved him"

John 11:36	Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him! 猶太人就說：你看他愛這人是何等懇切。
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The grave was in a cave, and a stone lay upon it. As Jesus approached it He again groaned in spirit. Whether this was because of His grief or because of the tremendous issues involved, we do not know. When Jesus asked that they remove the stone Martha feared it was too late and that decomposition might have set in. But Jesus was unmoved by this and reminded her that the glory of God was to be manifested if she would believe. In vs. 40 we have one of the great faith verses. The glory of God is manifested in response to faith.

one of the great faith verses

John 11:40	Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God? 耶穌說：我不是對你說過，你若信，就必看見神的榮耀麼？
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When the stone was removed Jesus looked up to heaven and said "Father I thank Thee Thou hast heard Me."(vs. 41) This was for the sake of those who were standing by. The miracle itself would have proved that the Father had heard Him, but perhaps it was that they might know that His Father was working with Him, and that it was not of His own power. He wanted them to know the close relationship between Him and His Father in all that He did. Or was it that He desired them to have a share in the miracle, by their faith?

"Father I thank Thee Thou hast heard Me"

John 11:41	Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. 他們就把石頭挪開。耶穌舉目望天，說：父阿，我感謝你，因為你已經聽我。
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When the grave was opened no doubt the eyes of all were riveted 集中 upon the lifeless form beneath the winding sheet, the sisters watching breathlessly. Surely the faintest whisper would have had the same effect, but with a "loud voice" Jesus cried "Lazarus, come forth!"(vs. 43) As someone has said, if He had not named Lazarus, all the graves might have been opened. The hearts of all must have thrilled with suspense (*enjoyable tension*) and expectancy 期望. We cannot imagine the feelings of the watchers as the corpse slowly began to move and to arise. The word of power had restored life instantly, but Lazarus was still bound with the grave clothes, and Jesus cried, "Loose him, and let him go!" (vs. 44) **So it is with many Christians who come into the new life: they are bound by the old habits that belong to the grave and the old condition, and need to be loosed and freed by the Spirit of God.**

"Lazarus, come forth"

John 11:43	And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a <u>loud voice</u> , Lazarus, come forth. 說了這話，就大聲呼叫說：拉撒路出來！
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"Loose him"

John 11:44	And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go. 那死人就出來了，手腳裹著布，臉上包著手巾。耶穌對他們說，解開，叫他走！
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For a few seconds, perhaps, all were stunned by the realization of the mighty miracle, but at Jesus' word doubtless the sisters eagerly ran forward to loose him. What joy as they again looked into his face glowing with new life and perfect health, and felt the embrace of his strong, laying arms! What a reunion for the little family, and what gratitude toward their wonderful Friend! Surely they must have fallen at His feet in worship and praise!

But even in the midst of such a demonstration, while many of the Jews believed, having seen this climax to His many mighty miracles, yet others went off to the Pharisees to tell what had been done. Great excitement followed and a council was called to decide what to do. The leaders of the Jews realized that anyone who could actually raise the dead would soon have all men at His command, and the Romans would take advantage of the opportunity to put down their nation. Caiaphas, the wily詭計多端 high priest, suggested that it was better for one man to die, rather than for the whole nation to be endangered; but he was not offering to be that one man, himself, but giving the unscrupulous無所不為的 Jews an excuse for putting Jesus to death. In so doing he prophesied truly that Jesus should die for the people: not only for that nation but for the whole world. As High Priest he was God's representative to His people, in spite of their apostate condition, it seems; and this prophecy would indicate (vs. 52) that it was given through him by God (Num. 27:21). This gives a glimpse into God's established order and His eternal purposes in conjunction with the free will of man and their evil designs (Acts 2:23). "God who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will" (Eph. 1:11).

prophecy

John 11:52	And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad. 也不但替這一國死，並要將神四散的子民都聚集歸一。
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God prophesied through Caiaphas as His representative in the nation

Numbers 27:21	And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall ask counsel for him after the judgment of Urim before the LORD: at his word shall they go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he, and all the children of Israel with him, even all the congregation. 他要站在祭司以利亞撒面前；以利亞撒要憑烏陵的判斷，在耶和華面前為他求問。他和以色列全會眾都要遵以利亞撒的命出入。
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a glimpse into God's established order...

Acts 2:23	Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: 他既按著神的定旨先見被交與人，你們就藉著無法之人的手，把他釘在十字架上，殺了。
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"God who worketh all things..."

Ephesians 1:11	In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: 我們也在他裡面得（或作：成）了基業；這原是哪位隨己意行、做萬事的，照著他旨意所預定的，
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After this council the opposition grew, and from that day the Jews increased their efforts to take Jesus and plotted among themselves how it might be brought to pass. And Jesus walked no more openly among

them, but went out into the borders of the wilderness, to a city called Ephraim. His disciples followed Him, and there He remained in retirement for a time.

MEDITATION

In the humble village of Bethany death met its Master.

Martha and Mary had ministered to Jesus often when things were well with them, and when their need for help became desperate He repaid them, beyond compare.

"Father, I thank Thee!" (vs. 41, 42) His prayer was but the calm recognition that the thing He desired was already done, in order that those who heard might believe.

"Father, I thank Thee!"

John 11:41,42	Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, <u>Father, I thank thee</u> that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. 他們就把石頭挪開。耶穌舉目望天，說：父阿，我感謝你，因為你已經聽我。我也知道你常聽我，但我說這話是為周圍站著的眾人，叫他們信是你差了我來。
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What a tragic note in the divine drama, that the high priest himself selected the Lamb for the Supreme Sacrifice, and while seeking to destroy Jesus for selfishness' sake, so truly prophesied His death as the Saviour of the world!

John 11:49-52

And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, "*Ye know nothing at all, Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not.*"

內中有一個人，名叫該亞法，本年作大祭司，對他們說：你們不知道甚麼。獨不想一個人替百姓死，免得通國滅亡，就是你們的益處。

And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation; And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad.

他這話不是出於自己，是因他本年作大祭司，所以預言耶穌將要替這一國死；也不但替這一國死，並要將神四散的子民都聚集歸一。

There was no ceremony at the grave, no strange fire. In the greatest of miracles, as often before, Jesus simply and grandly 崇高地 commanded, and Lazarus came forth.

The Jews at the graveside took two opposite ways: some moved forward in their faith in Him; others turned from Him as talebearers to carry to Jerusalem evidence that would help to condemn Him. The Person and work of our Lord are always a dividing force.

We have many reasons for not following Jesus, but always, under all, there is one great antagonism 敵對: we do not want our placid 平靜的 lives disturbed or changed.

From the Greek: In verse 4 "for" (huper) is literally "over, above" and means "for the advantage or benefit of one," with the idea of bending over the one to be benefited. Think of it! God is benefited even by the seeming tragedies in our lives, provided we let Jesus into them, for He is always "bending over" the glory of God to perform it through us. ([2 Cor. 1:20](#))

"for" (huper)

John 11:4	When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but <u>for</u> the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby. 耶穌聽見，就說：這病不至於死，乃是為神的榮耀，叫神的兒子因此得榮耀。
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2 Corin. 1:20	For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. 神的應許，不論有多少，在基督都是是的。所以藉著他也都是實在（實在：原文是阿們）的，叫神因我們得榮耀。
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STUDY

Do you think Jesus wanted to go to Judea to get away from His experiences in Perea, or was it solely to meet the need at Bethany? Do you think He often had a longing to do something for someone who really loved and appreciated Him? Could this Mary have been the one who lived in Magdala, the "sinner" who anointed Jesus with ointment (Lk. 7:37)? Although Jesus had often visited this little family, do you think they really understood Him? If so, why did they not ask him to heal Lazarus from where He was beyond Jordan? Do you think they sent a second message saying Lazarus was dead, or how did Jesus know it? Do you think Jesus wanted to see them and comfort them personally, rather than from a distance? Why do you suppose He did not save them those days of heart anguish in seeing their brother die, when He could have prevented it? It is at least a good one-day walk from Jordan to Bethany, so Lazarus must have died soon after the message was sent. Why did Jesus say "this sickness is not unto death,"(vs. 4) "our friend, Lazarus, sleepeth"(vs. 11) etc., if he were already dead? Do you think Jesus delayed in order to give His enemies time to make sure Lazarus was dead? Do most of our blessings come to us because someone has suffered? Did the delay indicate that Jesus did not love them? How do you account for the faith of the sisters in spite of the delay and their four days' suffering? The sisters admitted their brother was dead and thought decomposition 腐朽 had set in, but did Jesus admit this? What did He mean when He said, "Are there not twelve hours in the day"?(vs. 9) When Jesus said, "Father, I thank Thee Thou hast heard Me,"(vs. 41) was it because they had had faith to remove the stone, or was it an inward assurance of the coming manifestation of the answer? Was it necessary for Him to speak in a "loud voice"(vs. 43) in order to raise Lazarus? Was it Jesus' prayer, or His own personal power, or the power of the Father in heaven that restored life? Did Jesus ask His Father to raise the dead? Has anyone else ever raised the dead? Could men do so if their faith were perfect? Would Jesus have commanded His disciples to raise the dead, if it were impossible to them (Mt. 10:8)? Was that to be included when He said to them, "Nothing shall be impossible to you" (Mt. 17:20)? Does religious prejudice ever go so far as to prefer sickness, death and destruction rather than surrender meaningless dogmas 教條 or preconceived 偏見 ideas? Does sectarianism 宗派主義者 or prejudice today ever say, "We will either control or destroy"? Do you think Jesus stayed away from Jerusalem at this time for fear of the Jews? Why did He go to Ephraim? Do you think He ever experienced fear, was tired, or so weary of the constant struggle that He was tempted to be discouraged or to give up? Do you think if He were here today He would receive the same treatment?

"a sinner"

Luke 7:37	And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, 那城裡有一個女人，是個罪人，知道耶穌在法利賽人家裡坐席，就拿著盛香膏的玉瓶，
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"raise the dead"

Matthew 10:8	Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. 醫治病人，叫死人復活，叫長大癱瘓的潔淨，把鬼趕出去。你們白白的得來，也要白白的捨去。
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"nothing shall be impossible unto you"

Matthew 17:20	And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. 耶穌說：是因你們的信心小。我實在告訴你們，你們若有信心，像一粒芥菜種，就是對這座山說：你從這邊挪到那邊。他也必挪去；並且你們沒有一件不能做的事了。
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REVIEW

1. Where was Jesus when the message came to Him from the sisters at Bethany?	Jesus was at Bethabara in Perea.
2. What was the message?	<i>"Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick."</i>
3. Did He go to them at once?	No
4. Why not?	This delay was deliberately planned for Jesus knew the sickness is not unto death, but was to be made the occasion for the glory of God.
5. How soon did He go?	Jesus remained two days right where He was before he went to them.
6. When He told His disciples He was going did they encourage Him?	No
7. What was their reply?	<i>"Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?"</i>
8. What did He mean by "walking in the day" ?	Walking in the will of God
9. What did Jesus say about Lazarus' sickness?	He said this sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God.
10. How did He know that he had actually died?	Maybe he perceived in His Spirit.
11. How did He tell His disciples?	Jesus told them that Lazarus sleeps.
12. Why did He say He was going to Lazarus?	He will go to Lazarus to awake him out of sleep.
13. Did they understand?	No
14. What did they think?	They thought the crisis of the disease had passed and Lazarus was resting (sleeping)
15. Why did Jesus say He was glad He was not in Bethany when Lazarus died?	Because it will be an occasion to increase their faith.
16. Did He ask the disciples to go with Him?	Yes
17. What did Thomas say?	<i>"Let us also go, that we may die with him."</i>
18. What traits of character does this show in Thomas?	A doubting spirit
19. How long did the journey take?	About two days
20. When they arrived how long had Lazarus been dead?	Four days
21. Who were with Martha and Mary?	Many Jews
22. Why?	They came to comfort them concerning their brother's death

23. Where were they from?	Jerusalem
24. How far was it from Bethany?	About 2 miles
25. Who met Jesus first?	Martha
26. Where?	Some place near the town
27. What was her greeting?	<i>"Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died."</i>
28. Did she show any faith that Jesus could do anything under the circumstances?	Yes! She showed faith in Jesus by saying <i>"But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee."</i>
29. What did Jesus tell her?	Jesus told her <i>"Thy brother shall rise again."</i>
30. Did she understand Him?	No
31. What great statement did Jesus make concerning Himself?	<i>"I am the resurrection, and the life:"</i>
32. Concerning believers?	<i>"he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."</i>
33. What statement of faith did Martha make?	<i>"Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world."</i>
34. Where was Mary?	Mary sat still in the house
35. When she heard He had come what did she do?	Mary arose quickly, and came unto Jesus
36. Who followed her out?	The Jews who were with her in the house
37. Where did they think she was going?	They thought Mary is going to the grave to weep there
38. What was her greeting when she met the Lord?	<i>"Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died."</i>
39. What was she doing?	Mary was weeping
40. What were the Jews doing?	The Jews were weeping with Mary
41. What memorial has been told of Mary throughout the world?	Her act of poured out love in anointing Jesus for his burial, with the box of precious ointment
42. How did Jesus feel when He met them?	Jesus groaned in the spirit, and was troubled
43. What did He ask?	<i>"Where have ye laid him?"</i>
44. How did He show His emotion?	He wept
45. What did this reveal?	He loved this family very dearly
46. What question did the Jews ask?	<i>"Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?"</i>

47. What kind of grave was it?	It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.
48. What was Jesus' first command?	He asked the stone be taken away
49. What did Martha say to it?	<i>"Lord, by this time he stinketh"</i>
50. Why did she think this?	For Lazarus has been dead four days already
51. Did Jesus agree with her?	No
52. How did He reassure her faith?	Jesus saith unto Martha, <i>"Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldst believe, thou shouldst see the glory of God?"</i>
53. What is the condition for seeing the glory of God manifested?	Have faith in God and believe
54. Did the group have anything to do with opening the grave?	Yes, they help taking away the stone from the place where the dead was laid
55. Did Jesus pray for Lazarus?	No
56. What did He say before He raised Lazarus?	<i>"Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me."</i>
57. How did He know His Father had heard Him?	It is an inward assurance of the coming manifestation of the answer.
58. Did not God always hear Him?	Yes, God always hears Him, but Jesus said it for the sake of all these people standing by, so that they will believe that the Father has sent Him.
59. Would not the miracle have proved it?	Yes! The miracle itself would have proved that the Father had heard Him.
60. Was it necessary for Him to use a loud voice?	No, but the loud voice demonstrates the power of the Father in heaven that restored life
61. Why did He speak Lazarus' name?	As someone has said, if He had not named Lazarus, all the graves might have been opened.
62. How did Lazarus come forth?	Lazarus came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin.
63. What did Jesus tell them to do?	Jesus said unto them, <i>"Loose him, and let him go."</i>
64. Who unbound him?	Probably Martha and Mary
65. Is anything told of the joyful reunion that must have taken place?	Surely they must have fallen at His feet in worship and praise!
66. What did the Jews do?	Many Jews believed on Jesus, but some Jews went to tell the Pharisees what Jesus had done.
67. What was the result in Jerusalem?	The chief priests and the Pharisees had a council to discuss what to do with Jesus.
68. What was their reasoning concerning the many miracles?	Because of Jesus' many miracles, all men will believe on Him and the Romans will come and take away both their place and nation.
69. Who did the Jews fear?	The Romans

70. Who was high priest that year?	Caiaphas
71. What did he suggest as a way out?	He suggested that one man should die for the people and that the whole nation perish not.
72. Was he offering himself as the "one man"?	No
73. What was his motive?	To give the unscrupulous Jews an excuse for putting Jesus to death.
74. Was this a real prophecy?	Yes
75. Did it prove to be true?	Yes
76. How could he prophesy when he was such a wicked man? Or, like the Apostle Paul, did he think he was doing right? (Jn. 16:2)	God has an established order and as a High Priest he was God's representative to His people, in spite of his apostate condition.
77. Was the opposition greater or less after that?	Greater
78. Did Jesus continue to walk in Judea?	No
79. Where did He go?	He went to Ephraim
80. Did His disciples go with Him?	Yes
81. How long did He stay?	He stayed until six days before the passover, then He came back to Bethany again.

John 16:2	They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. 人要把你們趕出會堂，並且時候將到，凡殺你們的就以為是事奉神。
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