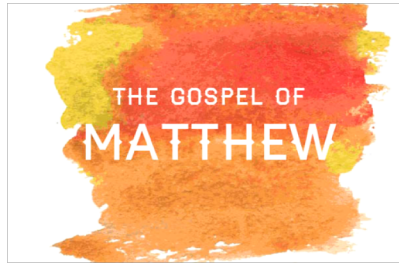


# Disciple's Quest

*If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine.*

John 8:31



March 3, 2019

The Ultimate Sign

John 11

## Main Idea:

On the road to the cross, Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. This ultimate proof of His identity as the Christ and Son of God caused some to believe, strengthened the faith of others, but hardened the hearts of others and incited them to set in motion the conspiracy to kill Him.

## Outline:

1. The Setup:
  
2. Survey of the occasion:
  - Jesus did not raise Lazarus from the dead for Lazarus's own sake
  - Lazarus's resurrection was in part for the benefit of the disciples
  - Lazarus's resurrection exposed the rejection of Jesus by the religious authorities and set into motion the conspiracy that would result in His crucifixion
  
3. Application:
  
4. The Punchline: Jesus has absolute power over death

## Questions for further contemplation and application after the message:

#1 Do you agree with the Pastor Vaughn's assertion in the message that Jesus did not raise Lazarus for Lazarus's own sake?

What is the danger in growing too attached to this life?

#2 How did Martha's head lag a little behind her heart?

Do we sometimes struggle to intellectually understand the promises we accept by faith?

How can we grow through this challenge?

#3 Does God still use trials, including sickness and pain, today?

How?

And how about death?

How does God use the death of His people today for good?

How should we think about death as Christians?

Where is our true home?

What assurance do we have?

The conspiracy to kill Jesus included the "chief priests," who denied any resurrection. Following Lazarus's being raised by Jesus these men will take the lead in securing His execution. Why? Check v.48 for the tragic answer.

### Select helpful resources:

Carson, D.A. *Matthew Vol.2 (Ch 13 –28), The Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.  
MacArthur, John F. *Matthew 16 – 23*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 1988.  
Morris, Leon. *The Gospel According to Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992.  
Toussant, Stanley. *Behold the King – A Study of Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1980.  
Turner, David L. *Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.