

# I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

## I AM: PART FIVE

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TV

### John 11:1–26 (NLT)

A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha...<sup>3</sup> So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, “Lord, your dear friend is very sick.”

<sup>4</sup> But when Jesus heard about it he said, “Lazarus’s sickness will not end in death. No, it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this.”<sup>5</sup> So although Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus,<sup>6</sup> he stayed where he was for the next two days.

<sup>7</sup> Finally, he said to his disciples, “Let’s go back to Judea.”

<sup>8</sup> But his disciples objected. “Rabbi,” they said, “only a few days ago the people in Judea were trying to stone you. Are you going there again?”

<sup>9</sup> Jesus replied, “There are twelve hours of daylight every day. During the day people can walk safely. They can see because they have the light of this world.<sup>10</sup> But at night there is danger of stumbling because they have no light.”<sup>11</sup> Then he said, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but now I will go and wake him up.”

<sup>12</sup> The disciples said, “Lord, if he is sleeping, he will soon get better!”<sup>13</sup> They thought Jesus meant Lazarus was simply sleeping, but Jesus meant Lazarus had died.

<sup>14</sup> So he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead.<sup>15</sup> And for your sakes, I’m glad I wasn’t there, for now you will really believe. Come, let’s go see him.”

<sup>16</sup> Thomas, nicknamed the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let’s go, too—and die with Jesus.”

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived at Bethany, he was told that Lazarus had already been in his grave for four days.<sup>18</sup> Bethany was only a few miles down the road from Jerusalem,<sup>19</sup> and many of the people had come to console Martha and Mary in their loss.<sup>20</sup> When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed in the house.<sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died.<sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask.”

<sup>23</sup> Jesus told her, “Your brother will rise again.”

<sup>24</sup> “Yes,” Martha said, “he will rise when everyone else rises, at the last day.”

<sup>25</sup> Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.<sup>26</sup> Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?”

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*“All of us must die eventually. Our lives are like water spilled out on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again.” (2 Samuel 14:14a, NLT)*

*“A wise person thinks a lot about death, while a fool thinks only about having a good time.”  
(Ecclesiastes 7:4, NLT)*

## WHY PEOPLE DIE

*“The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden...And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.””  
(Genesis 2:15–17, NIV84)*

**Death is a result of SIN.**

*“When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam’s sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.” (Romans 5:12, NLT)*

## HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR DEATH

### 1. I MUST DETERMINE MY FINAL DESTINATION.

*“Everyone must die once, and after that be judged by God.” (Hebrews 9:27, GNB)*

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16, NIV)*

*“God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God’s one and only Son.” (John 3:17–18, NLT)*

### 2. I MUST RESIST GETTING DISTRACTED.

*“Friends, this world is not your home, so don’t make yourselves cozy in it. Don’t indulge your ego at the expense of your soul.” (1 Peter 2:11, The Message)*

*“[The great men and women of faith] could have gone back to the good things of this world. But they didn’t want to. They were living for heaven. And now God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has made a heavenly city for them.” (Hebrews 11:15–16, The Living Bible)*

### 3. I MUST BE SURE MY ASSIGNMENTS HERE ARE DONE.

*“As for me, my life has already been poured out as an offering to God. The time of my death is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.”  
(2 Timothy 4:6–7, NLT)*

*“David served God’s purposes in his own time, and then he died.” (Acts 13:36a, GNB)*

4. I MUST **DECLARE** THE GOOD NEWS TO THE LIVING!

*“By God’s grace and mighty power, I have been given the privilege of serving him by spreading this Good News.” (Ephesians 3:7, NLT)*

*“So today I tell you that if any of you should be lost, I am not responsible, because I have told you everything God wants you to know.” (Acts 20:26–27, NCV)*

**LAST THOUGHT**

***You’re not really ready to LIVE until you’re ready to DIE.***

*“I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.” (John 11:25, NLT)*