

DISCIPLESHIP HANDOUT

THE GROAN BEFORE THE GLORY: When Jesus Wakes the Dead and Defeats the Grave

Text: John 11:33

1. The Backdrop of the Miracle

- Atmosphere filled with grief, mourning, and hopelessness
- Mary weeping, mourners wailing, faith shaken
- Death appears victorious
- Jesus enters not to agree with the atmosphere but to **change it**

2. Why Jesus Groaned

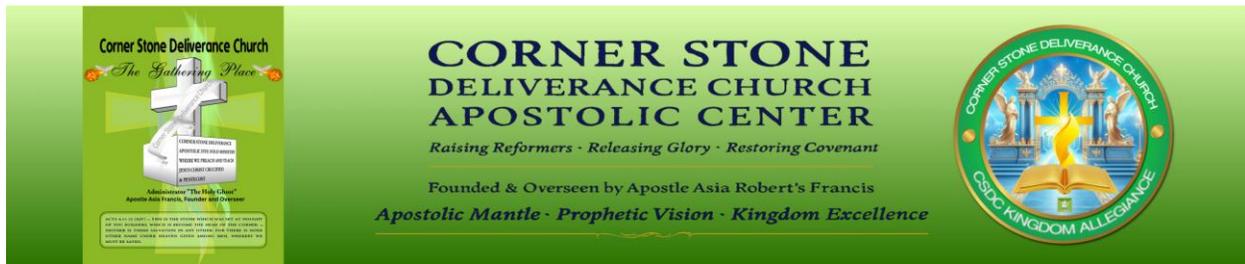
- The Greek word *enebrimēsato* = a warrior's groan, a sound of indignation
- Jesus groaned **at death**, not at people
- His groan was a **war cry**, a confrontation of the spirit of death

3. The Groan Before the Glory

- Before resurrection comes confrontation
- Before breakthrough comes agitation
- Before glory comes a groan
- The groan signals that **something is waking up**

4. Jesus Breaks the Power of the Grave

- The grave had a claim, but Jesus broke its decree
- His groan shook hell and stripped death of authority
- The groan was the sound of **death being defeated**



5. Jesus Calls the Dead to Rise

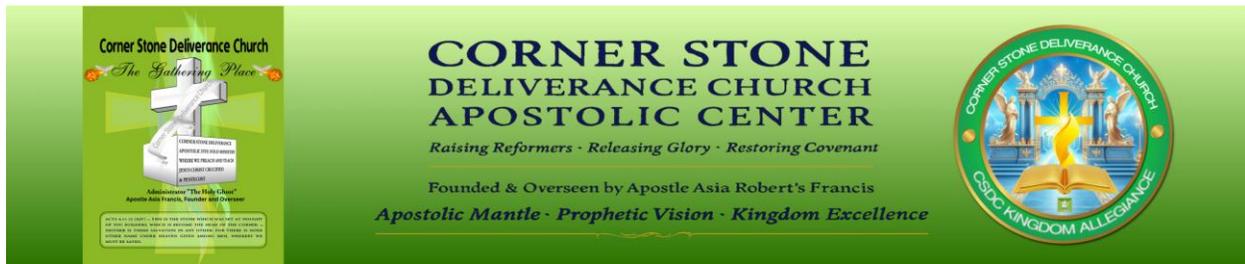
- “Lazarus, come forth!” a command, not a suggestion
- When Jesus calls your Lazarus (purpose, joy, vision), it **must rise**

6. Application

- Dead places in your life are being confronted
- Buried things are waking up
- The shaking you feel is the stone rolling away
- The warfare you feel is the grave losing its grip

7. Prophetic Charge

- Every dead thing is waking up
- Every grave is losing its hold
- Every decree of death is broken
- Every buried promise is rising
- When Jesus groans **glory follows**



7-DAY DEVOTIONAL

THE GROAN BEFORE THE GLORY

DAY 1 — The Atmosphere Jesus Walked Into

Scripture: John 11:33 **Reflection:** Jesus steps into grief, chaos, and hopelessness — and refuses to bow to it. **Affirmation:** I do not agree with hopeless atmospheres; I shift them. **Prayer:** Lord, teach me to stand in faith even when the atmosphere is heavy.

DAY 2 — The Warrior's Groan

Scripture: John 11:33 (Greek: *enebrimēsato*) **Reflection:** Jesus groaned like a warrior confronting death. **Affirmation:** The groan in me is a sign of spiritual warfare and victory. **Prayer:** Stir my spirit to confront what confronts me.

DAY 3 — Confrontation Before Resurrection

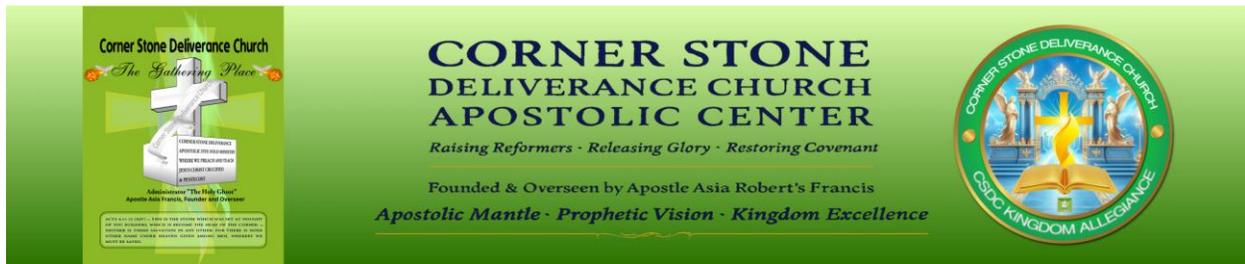
Scripture: John 11:39 **Reflection:** Before Lazarus rises, Jesus confronts the stone, the smell, and the unbelief. **Affirmation:** I face what must be faced so resurrection can come. **Prayer:** Give me courage to confront what blocks my breakthrough.

DAY 4 — Breaking the Power of the Grave

Scripture: Hosea 13:14 **Reflection:** God taunts death because He has power over it. **Affirmation:** Death has no authority over what God has spoken. **Prayer:** Break every decree of death over my purpose.

DAY 5 — Calling the Dead to Rise

Scripture: John 11:43 **Reflection:** Jesus calls Lazarus by name — resurrection is personal. **Affirmation:** God knows my name and calls me out of every tomb. **Prayer:** Speak life into every dead place in me.



DAY 6 — Removing the Grave Clothes

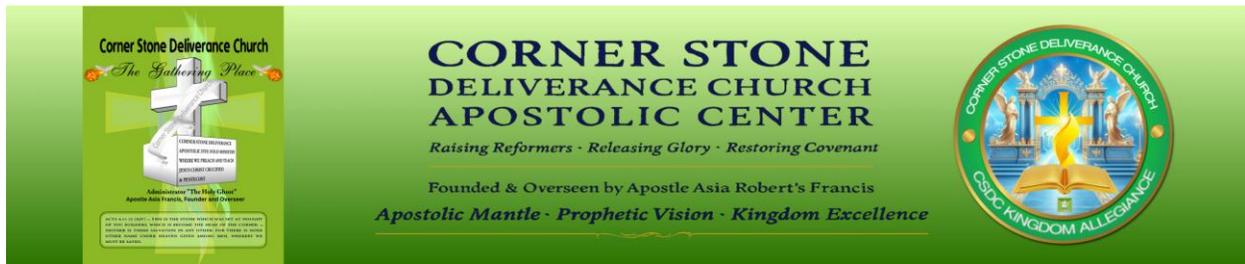
Scripture: John 11:44 **Reflection:** Resurrection is instant, but deliverance is a process.

Affirmation: I am rising and being unwrapped from every limitation. **Prayer:** Remove every grave cloth that restricts my movement.

DAY 7 — The Glory After the Groan

Scripture: John 11:40 **Reflection:** The groan was the announcement that glory was coming.

Affirmation: I expect glory after every groan. **Prayer:** Reveal Your glory in my life, Lord.



THE GROAN BEFORE THE GLORY

Multiple-Choice Questions

Circle the correct answer.

1. What does the Greek word for “groaned” in John 11:33 describe?

- A. A gentle sigh of sadness
- B. A whisper of compassion
- C. A warrior-like groan of indignation
- D. A quiet moment of reflection

2. Why did Jesus groan when He approached Lazarus’ tomb?

- A. He was frustrated with Mary
- B. He was overwhelmed by the crowd
- C. He was unsure what to do next
- D. He was confronting the spirit of death

3. According to the sermon, what does the groan represent?

- A. Emotional exhaustion
- B. A moment of hesitation
- C. A signal that resurrection is near
- D. A request for help

4. What happened immediately after Jesus groaned?

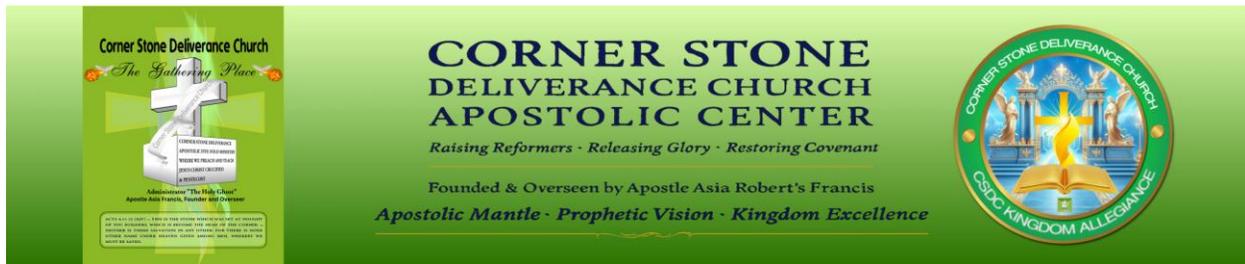
- A. He asked the crowd to pray
- B. He waited for a sign
- C. He left the scene
- D. He commanded Lazarus to come forth

5. What does the sermon teach about “dead places” in our lives?

- A. They are permanent
- B. Jesus confronts and awakens them
- C. We must accept them as they are
- D. They cannot be changed

6. What was the atmosphere Jesus walked into at Lazarus’ tomb?

- A. Peaceful and calm
- B. Filled with worship and praise
- C. Thick with grief, unbelief, and sorrow
- D. Filled with joy and expectation



7. What does the groan of Jesus signal in the spiritual realm?

A. That He is overwhelmed B. That He is preparing to leave C. That glory is about to break through D. That He is unsure of the outcome

8. What does Jesus' command "Lazarus, come forth!" demonstrate?

A. Suggestion B. Negotiation C. Uncertainty D. Resurrection authority

9. What does the sermon say about the warfare we feel before breakthrough?

A. It means God is far away B. It is the grave losing its grip C. It is a sign to give up D. It means the promise is denied

10. What is the main message of the sermon?

A. The groan is a sign of defeat B. The groan is the sound of divine agitation before divine manifestation C. The groan means Jesus was confused D. The groan shows Jesus was tired