

John 11.2

We have been in the gospel of John chapter 11, the story of Lazarus and his sisters Who lived in Bethany on the skirts of the Mount of Olives They were friends with Jesus, and Lazarus got sick. Jesus said, "This sickness is not unto death," but Lazarus died, and he came 4 days later Martha comes and tells Jesus, "If you had been here," He tells her, "I am the resurrection and the life."

John 11.28 And when she had said these things, she went her way and **secretly** called Mary her sister, saying, "The Teacher has come and is calling for you." 29 As soon as she heard *that*, she arose quickly and came to Him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the town, but was in the place where Martha met Him. 31 Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there."

32 Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

- Martha calls Mary in **secret**. Mary is the one who likes to be at the feet of Jesus
- **The teacher is calling you**
- She comes to Jesus and says the same thing, but different
- **Can you see what she did differently? She is at the feet of Jesus (worshiping Jesus)**
 1. When everything was good and Jesus was teaching, she was at the feet of Jesus
 2. When everything went wrong and the worst happened, she was at the feet of Jesus, heartbroken, grieving, hurting, but at the feet of Jesus
 3. We will see in chapter 12 again that she's at the feet of Jesus
- Stay at the feet of Jesus
- When we're hurting, heartbroken, betrayed, tired, grieving, going through the worst moments in our lives, the safest place to be is at the feet of Jesus

33 Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled.

- This is one confusing verse: some have said that when a worshipper is in trouble, Jesus gets troubled
- **What if**, when a worshipper is at the feet of Jesus, that's the place where He says This is no longer your battle, it is mine
- Some have suggested that Jesus felt what she was feeling and took action

34 And He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see."

- Jesus knew where Lazarus was, but still asked where, so Mary could show Him

35 Jesus wept.

- This is the shortest verse in the bible
- It shows us again the humanity of Jesus

36 Then the Jews said, "See how He loved him!" **37** And some of them said, "Could not this Man, who opened the eyes of the blind, also have kept this man from dying?"

- These Jewish people who were there were hired to grieve (professional grievers)

38 Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. **39** Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been *dead* four days."

John 11.2

- Decomposition had set in
- Jesus was not turned away by this
- Jesus is not turned away by how bad we are, how sinful we are, or how bad we may stink

40 Jesus said to her, “**Did I not say to you that if you would believe, you would see the glory of God?**”

- If you are here tonight, and you may think that you are too far gone, that your marriage is dead, that there’s no way God could do something in your life
- **Did I not say to you that if you would believe, you would see the Glory of God**
- **Believe the Gospel of forgiveness, power, regeneration, transformation, healing, restoration, the Gospel of Jesus**

41 Then they took away the stone [d]from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me.

- Take away the stone,
- In order for a miracle to happen, they had to move the stone away, take away pride, take away hatred, take away unforgiveness, take away Habitual sins, take away Stuff that’s out of order, and get in order

42 And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me.”

- This entire event was for the Glory of God
- This was for Mary, Martha, and Lazarus to experience the power of Jesus on a whole new level
- This was for the people standing by to believe
- Some of the things the Lord allows are for the glory of God, for us to know Him as savior, healer, provider, but also that people may believe
- Do you know Him? Call out to Him, obey Him, walk with Him, trust Him, and you will know Him

43 Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come forth!”

- Lazarus had been dead for 4 days
- Where was Lazarus (**Luke 16:19-31** Lazarus and the rich man)
 - 2 places, both in the Old Testament, both called the pit or haidees
 1. One was Abraham’s bosom: this is where all the saints of the Old Testament were (Moses, David, Joshua, the prophets, etc.
 1. A place of rest, and comfort, and waiting (for Jesus)
 2. When Jesus came, he took all of them to paradise
 2. The other was where the sinners were (this was a place of suffering)(hell)
- The saints in Abraham's bosom were waiting for Jesus, and were taken by Jesus to Paradise; that’s where they are now.
- They are waiting for the resurrection, where the dead in Christ will rise first, and the Church will be raptured
- The ones who are in the place of torment are waiting for the second resurrection of the great white throne
- Lazarus heard the voice of Jesus calling Him (**I GOT TO GO**)

44 And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Loose him, and let him go.”

- Resurrection, the one who had died came back to life

John 11.2

- This is what happens when we hear the voice of Jesus, the good news of the Gospel, **death to life**
- **But there's a problem**, Lazarus is bound by graveclothes.
- This is what happens with so many of us: we hear the voice, we go from death to life, but still bound by the place where we used to be.
- Jesus has called us to life and life more abundant, to freedom

The Plot to Kill Jesus

45 Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him. **46** But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them the things Jesus did.

47 Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? For this, Man works many signs. **48** If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation."

49 And one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, **50** nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish." **51** Now this he did not say on his own *authority*; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, **52** and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad.

53 Then, from that day on, they plotted to put Him to death. **54** Therefore Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there into the country near the wilderness, to a city called Ephraim, and there remained with His disciples.

55 And the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went from the country up to Jerusalem before the Passover, to purify themselves. **56** Then they sought Jesus, and spoke among themselves as they stood in the temple, "What do you think—that He will not come to the feast?" **57** Now both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given a command, that if anyone knew where He was, he should report *it*, that they might seize Him.