

I AM: Who is Jesus & Why Does it Matter?

Resurrection and the Life

John 11:25-26

“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” **John 20:30-31**

“So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, ‘What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him...So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.’ **John 11:47-48a, 53**

“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?’” **John 11:25-26**

Main Idea: Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life

- I. **Who is Jesus?** – “Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life.’” **John 11:25b**
 - **Jesus is the Resurrection:** Jesus proved this by raising Lazarus from the dead and by coming back to life himself after his own death.

“As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, ‘The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day.’ And they were greatly distressed.”

Matthew 17:22-23

- **Jesus is the Life:** As the source of life, there’s no life apart from Him

“Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.” **1 John 5:12**

- II. **Why Does it Matter?** *Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.* **John 11:25b-26a**

“Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’” **John 11:23-24:**

Eternal Spiritual Life: Martha thought Jesus was referring to this when he promised her that Lazarus would rise again. Why? Because it is guaranteed to anyone who places their trust in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Jesus’ own death and resurrection was the complete payment made on our behalf to receive eternal spiritual life.

“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.” **Ephesians 2:4-6**

Immediate Physical Life: Without denying the promised resurrection in the eternal, spiritual sense, Jesus made it clear that he had a more physical and immediate plan for Lazarus’ life. Why? Because our physical life is also under the sovereign control of Jesus.

We are resurrected and made alive, not by a doctrine written in a book, although we are grateful for the scriptures and the theology, but our physical and spiritual life is due to a person: **Jesus Christ!**

When I’m broke down, I don’t want a motor manual...I want a mechanic
When I’m being sued, I don’t want a lawbook...I want an attorney
When I’m sick, I don’t want a medical journal...I want a doctor
When I’m dead, I don’t need a Bible...I need Jesus!

Over 8 times in the narrative of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, he uses the word *believe*. Why? Because that is the only way we can experience the Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life.

To the Non-Believer: You might disagree that you need the resurrection and the life because things are going pretty well, but there will be moments of your life when you wonder, “Is this all there is?” Chase that thought and consider Jesus when you do!

To the Believer: Do not forget that Jesus is sovereign over the eternal/spiritual world as well as the immediate/physical world. He can be trusted with both!

1) Who is Jesus? He is the Resurrection and the Life 2) Why Does it Matter? Because We Are Dead without Him

Sources and Further Reading Opportunities

- *Exploring the Gospel of John* – John Phillips (1989)
- *John: That you May Believe* – Kent Hughes (1999)
- *The Bible Exposition Commentary* – Warren Wiersbe (1996)
- *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* – Craig Keener (1993)
- *The Gospel of John (Vol 2)* – William Barclay (1975)
- *Faithlife Study Bible* – J.D. Barry (2016)
- *John* – B. B. Barton (1993)
- *The Message of John: Here is Your King!* – B. Milne (1993)
- *John* – K. O. Gangel (2000)
- *The New American Commentary: John* – Gerald L. Borchert (1996)
- *Word Pictures in the New Testament* – A.T. Robertson (1933)
- *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Gospel according to St. John* – A.H. McNeile (1929)
- *The Gospel According to John* – D.A. Carson (1991)
- *The Light of the World: A Sermon* – Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1916)

