

I. Intro

A. Series Text: **Jn. 11:1-15**

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰ But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." ¹¹ After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." ¹³ Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." (Jn. 11:1-15)

B. Recap

1. Pt. 1: The Begotten Son is the Eternal Son

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen; and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages, light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father, through whom all things came to be... (Creed of Nicea, 325 A.D.)

- a. The Son is Creator of all things
- b. The Son of God is God

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2. In the fulness of time, God Himself came down to do what only He could do: Save us!

3. Part 2a

- a. **Incarnate:** prefix “in” + noun “carne”

- i. God the Son came into a real human body.
 - ii. The Eternal son was fully God and fully man.

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (Is. 7:14)

- iii. With us... God.

- b. Consider Why He Came?

- i. To Reveal God to Man
 - ii. To Fulfill the Righteous Requirement of the Law
 - iii. To Defeat Darkness

- c. Conclusion:

- i. The Love of God for us.
 - ii. The Care of God For us.

II. The Incarnate Son (Part B)

A. The Companionship of the Son

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” (Jn. 11:1-3)

1. Here we see on display, the Companionship of the Son
 - a. The Son had visited this same town many times.
 - b. Close to the entire family.
2. The Son not only spent time with Lazarus, but he spent real time with the sisters: Mary and Martha.
 - a. This Mary is the same Mary who anointed the Lord’s feet with an alabaster flask full of oil and wiped them with her hair.
 - b. She had a history that the writer is intentional about pointing out.

¹ Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² So they gave a dinner for him there.

Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. ³ Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. (Jn. 12:1-3)

3. We could applaud Mary for giving her all in the place of worship.
 - a. But more than standing in awe of Mary for her sacrifice, for her refusal to be worried about many things, what does this say about Jesus?
4. That He was worthy of what Mary gave.
 - a. He was worthy of all the oil she had stored up.

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” (Heb. 12:1)

- b. The Son came to be with us!
- c. Note: The fact that He came... often tempts us to forget who it is that came.

B. The Compassion of the Son (Jn. 11:1-8, 35-36)

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” (Jn. 11:1-3)

1. Love is the motivating factor in Jesus going to Bethany.
 - a. Lazarus was already dead.
 - b. It was well-known that there was a hit out on Jesus.

⁶ So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” ⁸ The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again? (Jn. 11:6-8)

- c. We know that Jesus traveled through many obstacles to be with this loved family.

⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. (Jn. 11:5)

2. Shared the pain with Mary and Martha.

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- a. Didn't just know about their pain.
 - b. But he shared with them in their grief.
 - i. *"Jesus wept."* (Jn. 11:35)
 - c. He shared in the uncomfortable family dynamics that all grieving families experience.
3. The Son is our Great High Priest who sympathizes with our weaknesses.
- a. Acquainted with our grief.

C. The Son's Command over Death (Jn. 11:34-44)

- 1. Jesus ran to take on the enemy (called death).
 - a. Show me where you laid him. (v. 34)

³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, 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 the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" (Jn. 11:38-40)

- 2. The Resurrection is not about an event in time as much as it is about a Person stepping into time: The Eternal Son.

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" (Jn. 11:25-26)

- a. The Resurrection is about a Person
- 3. Jesus' Personal Preview of His Deity

⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." (Jn. 11:41-42)

- a. God is here talking to God.
- b. God the Son switches from talking to Himself to talking to that which is dead.
- 4. Lazarus came out, bound and restricted.

⁴³ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." ⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." (Jn. 11:43-44)

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- a. The things that bound Lazarus (graveclothes) had to come out too.
 - 5. Although there are applications that we can celebrate now, let's not get carried away.
 - a. What Jesus did with Lazarus is a preview of what He will ultimately do on behalf of all who wait on Him.