

# THE GOSPEL *of* JOHN

## CHAPTER 11:1-16

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-397 JANUARY 28, 2001

### THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**"Jesus is The Resurrection  
and the Life" – Part 1**

### THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

**John 1:12**

**But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of  
God, to those who believe in His name:**

### TOPICALLY SUBJECT SEARCH KEYWORDS:

**Love, Power over Death, Miracles, Lazarus**

## **INTRODUCTION**

***to the text***

***John 11-16***

Flying into LAX as I Approached the Airport, I could see from my window that the eastbound 105 fwy was at a complete stand still. Ahead of the traffic jam was an accident. I could see it from my vantage point, but the people stuck in that traffic jam could not. When I got into my car I headed away from the accident toward the 134 fwy and home. I went in that direction because I knew something others didn't know – a faster way home!

Trusting in God Through Difficult Times  
Always puts me at better vantage point.

As we go through this text of scripture, notice with me that Jesus' love is stressed here several times and in different ways. The event before us deals with great pain and hardship even though it be wrapped in His love.

**Jesus is  
the Resurrection and the Life**

**THE GLORY OF GOD  
IS SEEN IN THE FACT THAT  
JESUS IS IN LOVE WITH YOU**

**1.) *His is a Deep Love***

**vv. 1-5**

**A Forever Faithful Love**

Romans 5:8-9

But God demonstrates **His own love toward us**, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

**a.) *It's a Practical Love***

**vv. 1-2**

Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 It was that Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.

**The Love Between this Family and Jesus was a  
Practical Love**

**a (certain man) was sick**

**God Looks at (a certain) You That  
Way...**

# Consider The Warmth and Love of Him Knowing Your Name Lazarus – Mary - Martha

Matthew 10:29-31

"Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. 30 "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31  
"Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

## *It's a Practical Love*

**b.) *It's a Personal Love***

**vv. 3,5**

Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying,  
"Lord, behold, he whom You **love** is sick."

**“the sisters sent to Him”**

**Two things are possible here**

Either the sister expected Jesus to come immediately, because Jesus loved Lazarus or they expected Jesus to heal him from afar – Jesus just speak the word.

Either way, a great amount of faith is involved  
and it was wrapped in a practical love

**THERE IS A DIVINE, PRACTICAL PLAN AT  
WORK HERE**

Even though they had faith – Jesus was in the business to grow them - more faith

**We have faith this morning -  
But God is in the business of growing up our faith**

James 1:2-3

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

## Application

- Christian, are you Struggling over an Issue?
- Is it a person or place that is bothering you?
- Perhaps it's a Rift Between you and another?

God is Going to Apply a “**Faith Lesson**”  
to that Boo Boo

“Well I don't like Susie” you say,  
Susie is exactly the one that Jesus is going to use to bless your life with  
a faith lesson – You'll Learn How to Love Susie!!!

**"Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick."**

**Love here in Grk: Phileo = Friends**

Things That Surround a Loving Relationship  
meaningful talks, memories, food, and laughter in a big way

## Can I Personify Jesus a Moment?

He was not like we often think. He was great to be with. He was serious when the time was right, he was fun when the time was right. The same God who created tears created the laugh

Psalm 126:1-3

When the LORD brought back the captives to Zion, we were like men who dreamed. 2 Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." 3 The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

Zephaniah 3:17

The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice (guy-heel = dance about with great emotion) over you with singing."

### *It's a Personal Love*

#### **Verse 5**

Now Jesus **loved** Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

## Love here in Grk: Agapeo = Friends

### *It's a Practical Love*

### *It's a Personal Love*

#### **c.) It's a Patient Love**

**vv. 4**

When Jesus heard that, He said, "**This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it.**"

**but for the glory of God,  
that the Son of God may be glorified through it."**

# Throughout the Gospels it is Clear That Jesus had a Divine Appointment with Calvary's Cross

## **not yet come**

John 7:30

for then they sought to kill Him; but no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour **had not yet come**.

## **not yet come**

John 8:20

These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come.

## **has come**

John 12:23

Now Jesus said, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified.

The Cross was both *His Glory and the Way to Glory*

**“The Healing of Lazarus is Going to Lead to My Arrest,  
My Beating, My Rejection and My Crucifixion and My  
Death  
– *that is the Way***

**But these things shall led to My Resurrection,  
My Ascension, My Glory**

Jack the Things That You Must Endure;  
Your Arrest by My Lordship, Your Beating from the Flesh, Your Rejection by the World, Your Bearing your Cross and Your Death to Self

It all leads to your Resurrection, Ascension, and Glory  
In to Heaven to be with me...

Philippians 2:13-14  
for it is God who works in you both to will and  
to do for His good pleasure.

### ***What Patient Love This is...***

That 2000 years ago Jesus went through all that He did, looking ahead at my life, my  
need, my sin, my pain...

"Instant Satisfaction" Not Here

## **THE GLORY OF GOD IS SEEN IN THE FACT THAT JESUS IS NOT AFRAID OF THE DARK**

**2.) *His is an All Seeing Love***

**vv. 6-10**

**a.) *He Sees What We Need***

**vv. 6-7**

So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He  
was. 7 Then after this He said to the disciples,  
**"Let us go to Judea again."**

### ***He Sees What We Need***

There are Times When We Need  
a Delay in Our Lives

...and we would never be the ones to sign up for it

Revelation 22:20

He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly."  
Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

## ***He Sees What We Need***

### ***b.) He Sees What is Ahead***

**vv. 8-9**

The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, lately the Jews sought 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.**"

### **"Are there not twelve hours in the day?"**

The day is coming no matter what you think about it or feel about it  
– its coming, so be prepared for it

The 12 hour day that is coming allows enough time for you to do what you need to do.

So then there is no need to stress out or panic about the day that's ahead of you

The day is only 12 hours long, so make the very best of those 12 hours and do nothing to waste those 12 hours that you do have

**There are twelve hours – but only twelve hours!  
There is no need for haste – but you mustn't waste!**

2 Corinthians 6:2

For God says, "Your cry came to me at a favorable time, when the doors of welcome were wide open. I am helping you on the day when salvation is being offered." Right now God is ready to welcome you. Today he is ready to save you.

Joshua 24:15

"And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve... But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

Hebrews 9:27

And as it is appointed unto men once to die,  
but after this the judgment:

***He Sees What We Need  
He Sees What is Ahead***

***c.) He Sees What We Cannot***

***vv. 10***

**"But if one walks in the night, he stumbles,  
because the light is not in him."**

Night, Darkness = Isolation, Sin  
Day, Light = Fellowship with God, Holiness

**If the light is in a man - that man  
will be able to see In Darkness / In  
Difficulty / In Storms / In Tribulation**

Psalm 139:11-12

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," 12  
even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness  
is as light to you.

Psalm 23:4

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You  
are with me; your rod and Your staff, they comfort

***He Sees What We Cannot***

Romans 11:33-34

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How  
unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! 34 "For who has  
known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor?"

# But Jesus' Love Can Seem Contradictory?

If Jesus Loved Lazarus and His Sisters

**Why Did Lazarus Get Sick in the First Place?**

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If Jesus Loved Lazarus and His Sisters

**Why Did Jesus Listen to Martha and Mary?**

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If Jesus Loved Lazarus and His Sisters

**Why Did Lazarus Have to Die?**

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God's Love Toward Us is not a Pampering Love,  
It is a Perfecting Love

**He Never Sacrifices Eternal Things for  
the Moment**

When I am Hurting I Want Relief Now  
Because I Believe That Suffering is My Enemy

But God Uses Pain, Suffering and Distress  
to Perfect Us in the Faith

Never Think That  
Earthly Suffering Cancels Eternal Love

1 Peter 4:16

Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed,  
but let him glorify God in this matter.

1 Peter 4:19

Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in  
doing

What is More Important to You in  
this Life; That you might be  
comfortable or that you might  
Glorify God? – *is that your final answer?*

Those That are Christians Softly Confess  
“God Be Glorified in My Life”

**THE GLORY OF GOD  
IS SEEN IN THE FACT THAT  
JESUS INSPIRES BELIEF**

**3.) *His is a Powerful Love***

**vv. 11-16**

**a.) *His Love Overpowers Death***

**v.11-13**

These things He said, and after that He said to them, "**Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up.**" 12 Then His disciples said, "Lord, if he sleeps he will get well. 13 However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep.

Sleep in the Bible Always Refers to The Appearance of the Earthly

# The Soul and Spirit

*The Soul and Spirit of a Man is Ethereal*

## Death to Jesus is Nothing Compared to His Power

**b.) His Love Genders Belief**

**v.14-15**

Then Jesus said to them plainly, "**Lazarus is dead 15 "And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him**

### The Punctuation

**"Lazarus is dead And I am glad"**

Lazarus' Sickness Became an Opportunity  
For God the Father to Show His Power that Would Result  
in the Glory of Jesus

**And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there,  
that you may believe.**

## Crises Generate Opportunities

The Greater The Difficulty the More Profound the Answer

Romans 5:2-5

through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; 4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Psalm 50:15

Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you,  
and you shall glorify Me."

**c.) *His Love Endures Much***

**vv. 16**

Then Thomas, who is called the Didymus (Twin), said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

## Thomas, the Devoted Doubter

Thomas' Courage Though Noble  
didn't equal the faith that Jesus was looking for

**But His Courage is Quenching His Faith.  
He's Ready and Willing to Die a Martyr  
Than to Believe Jesus' Words**

His Devotion is Commendable  
But Where There is Doubt - There is Little Faith

And Little Faith Produces Huge Emotions

Acts 14:21-22

And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."

# WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS?

## **Number 1**

God's Love is not Defined by Circumstances

## **Number 2**

God's Perspective is the Only Perspective. My understanding is speculation at best

## **Number 3**

God's Control is over all things, time, life, death, thoughts, feelings

## **Number 4**

God's Work is in a totally different time zone than mine

Ecclesiastes 3:11

He makes all things beautiful in His time But though God has planted eternity in the hearts of all men, even so, many cannot see the whole scope of God's plan from beginning to end.

END