



Lazarus John 11

March 3

OVERVIEW: [John, pt. I](#)

CONTEXT: John is all about signs that point to who Jesus is so that we might believe in Him. His own Resurrection aside, the greatest sign He performed was the raising of his friend Lazarus from the dead.

FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP (Lk 14:1–6)

- Why couldn't Jesus have been demeaning the Sabbath?
- How had the Jews added to the Sabbath command?
- What was fencing the Law?
- What was the passage actually about?

READ or REVIEW: Jn 11:1–44

QUESTIONS:

1. *Lazarus was the brother of Mary and Martha. Together they were dear friends of Jesus and supporters of His ministry. He would often stay in their home at Bethany, just east of Jerusalem. We get some background information in vv. 1–3.*
2. V.4- How does this verse set the tone for the chapter? How should we anticipate more than what meets the eye?
3. **V. 5- One would expect that if Jesus loved this family He would have hurried there, yet he delayed (v. 6). Why? How did Jesus show a greater love? What does this speak to our ministry?**
4. Vv. 7–8- Why was Jerusalem so dangerous for Jesus?
5. V. 16- Why do you think Thomas appeared to be in for a fight?
6. How long did Jesus delay before He arrived? What would this have meant for the body? (see v. 39).
7. *Do question 9 for Martha before question 8.*
8. **Vv. 25–7- A classic funeral text and a central expression of the Gospel. What does it mean?**
 1. Consider a group challenge to memorize v. 25.

9. Bearing in mind Lk 10:38–42, contrast Martha (vv. 20–24, 28) and Mary's grief (vv. 29–32) and response to Jesus.
10. **Vv. 33–36- What do you think the shortest verse in the Bible tells us about Jesus' love, compassion and humanity (v. 35)?**
11. **V. 40- How must we believe to behold the glory of God in our lives?**
12. **Does it surprise you that little attention is paid to Lazarus when this story revolved around him? What do you think this teaches us?**
13. **How do we answer this question: if Jesus raised Lazarus why didn't He raise my daddy? (a real question from a 9 year old).**

READ or REVIEW: Jn 11:45–57

1. **In these verses we see the negative reaction toward Jesus. What were His opponents thinking, feeling and planning?**
 - a. **What should their response have been?**
 - b. **How can we be tempted to feel this way about threats to our pride?**
2. How is this passage important to understand as we head toward the Passover (Easter) in John/as a church?

NEXT TIME: March 10, Mk 11:15–19, Jesus Cleanses the Temple