



Morningside Church

Sermon Discussion Guide

Title: Jesus is Our Resurrection

Date: September 7, 2025

Scripture Text: John 11:1-57

Notes:

In [John 20:31](#) the Apostle John states his reason for writing about the life of Jesus Christ. “These have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.” To do this, John writes about several miracles performed by Jesus. Turning water into wine, healing the sick, walking on water, etc. Many of these were considered messianic signs. Miracles that only the Messiah would be able to accomplish. The miracle of raising the dead to life was one of those messianic miracles, one which only God could do. In John 11, Jesus, who is God in the flesh, demonstrates His power by raising His friend Lazarus from the dead. This should have left no doubt in the minds of those who witnessed this event that Jesus was the Messiah. But unfortunately, that was not the case. Let’s look at the events surrounding Lazarus being raised from the dead and how those who saw it responded.

I. The Desperate Situation ([John 11:14](#))

Jesus states plainly to His disciples that Lazarus is dead. Lazarus’ sisters, Mary and Martha mourn his death. Both state their confidence that had Jesus been there before he died, He could have saved him (vss. [11:21](#), [32](#)). They were in a desperate situation that only Jesus could fix. Yet, even in their desperation, they both still believed in Jesus and who He was.

- Sometimes God may use desperate situations to get our attention. Why would He do that?
- When was a time you were in a desperate situation that only God could fix?
- How quickly do we turn to God for help in these situations?
 - For some, even Christians, God may not be the first person turned to for help. Why do we not turn to God sooner in times like these?

II. The Delay of the Savior ([John 11:4-7](#))

When news of Lazarus’ impending death was received by Jesus, He chose to delay His departure for Bethany two days. Those who were present with Jesus were puzzled why Jesus would linger for two additional days. They knew He loved Lazarus and his two sisters Mary and Martha. Why wouldn’t He make haste to be with Lazarus ASAP? Jesus told them that it would be by these events surrounding Lazarus’ illness and death that He would be glorified.



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- We see that Jesus had a reason for His delay – He would be glorified. How was Jesus glorified by His delay (vs. [45](#))?
- When was a time when you felt God delayed in His intercession in a situation you were in?
- How was His delay for your good and His glory?
- What would be your advice for someone in the midst of a difficult situation when it comes to waiting on God ([Isa. 40:31](#))?
- Through these times of waiting on God, how can we grow to knowing Him better through it ([Psa. 27:14](#))?

III. The Deliverance of the Savior ([John 11:33-44](#))

Jesus knew, even before He arrived, that He would be glorified through the events of raising Lazarus from the death. Those who were present had nothing to be sad about. But they were not aware of His plans. They knew whatever He asked of God, God would do (vs. [22](#)). Even as Jesus knew what He was going to do, He still had compassion for those He loved, Mary and Martha. As a result, He too wept (vs. [35](#), lit. ‘burst into tears’). Jesus wants us to trust Him in our circumstances, but He understands and has compassion for that we are going through.

- In vs. [38](#) we see that Jesus was again “deeply moved” as He went to the tomb. How can knowing Jesus has love and compassion for you, especially when you are going through tough times, be an encouragement?
- As Jesus arrived at the tomb, He instructed those there to remove the stone covering the entrance. For the things the people could do, He instructed them to do it. For what only He could do (raise Lazarus from the dead) He did.
 - Even though He could have done it Himself, Jesus gave them opportunity to be part of His work by removing the stone. How is it a blessing to be part of the work of Jesus?
- Describe how you are part of Jesus’ work.
- Before calling Lazarus forth from the tomb, Jesus prayed, helping those who were about to witness this mighty work of God to know where the power was coming from. Why is it important to seek God out before participating in His work?
- In vs. [43](#), Jesus raised Lazarus not by magic, incantations, or spells, but by the power of His word.
 - What are other examples of the power of God’s word being demonstrated?
- How can the power of God’s word help you live your life for Him?