

Series: VII  
Passage: John 11:17-44  
Sunday: April 9, 2023

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## John 11:17-44 (ESV)

### I Am the Resurrection and the Life

<sup>17</sup> Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup> So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "**Your brother will rise again.**" <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "**I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?**" <sup>27</sup> She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

### Jesus Weeps

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup> Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. <sup>34</sup> And he said, "**Where have you laid him?**" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup> Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup> But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

### Jesus Raises Lazarus

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>39</sup> 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." <sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, "**Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?**" <sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "**Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> 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.**" <sup>43</sup> When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "**Lazarus, come out.**" <sup>44</sup> 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.**"

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1. Have you ever been frustrated by the feeling that something important needs to happen and yet nothing seems to be happening? How did the situation turn out?

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2. Look up John 11:1-16 and familiarize yourself with the context of the passage. What is Jesus' response when he first hears that Lazarus is sick?
3. In verses 1-16 Jesus surprises people and overturns their expectations. How does Jesus accomplish this? In what ways has Jesus surprised you and overturned your expectations of what it means to follow him?
4. What was the first thing Martha says to Jesus when he finally arrives in Bethany (verses 21-22)? What is the significance in Jesus' response to her?
5. Jesus burst into tears the moment he sees Mary (verses 33-35). The son of God, through whom the worlds were made, was weeping. How does this challenge the way people, including Christians, often understand God?
6. We cannot help but connect the story of Lazarus and the story of Jesus. We cannot but suppose that Jesus, in praying for Lazarus and then raising him to life, was aware that he was walking toward his own death. What are the similarities you notice between the story of the raising of Lazarus and that of Jesus' resurrection?
7. What major differences do you see between these stories?
8. In what ways does this sign of Jesus point to his redeeming and saving work?