

Lazarus Raised from the Dead

John 11:1-46



The Story

Why do people die? People die because of sin. What happens when something dies? It doesn't take long before it starts to rot or decay. Once something dies, can it come back to life? Normally it doesn't, but in this lesson, we hear of someone who has power over death, Jesus.

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus were brother and sisters. They knew Jesus and were His friends. One day Lazarus became sick. The sisters sent a message to Jesus because they had faith that He could come and help them. Jesus was in another town and didn't come right away.

After two days, Jesus told His disciples they would go and wake up Lazarus out of a sleep. This would give glory to God. The disciples were afraid because the Jews had tried to kill Jesus earlier, but Jesus knew they should go.

When they got to Bethany, Martha ran to meet Jesus and said that Lazarus had been dead four days, but he wouldn't have died if Jesus had come earlier. Jesus said Lazarus would rise again. Martha thought Jesus meant Lazarus would be raised on Judgment Day, but Jesus said "I am the Resurrection and the Life. He that believes in Me will never die."

Then Martha told Mary to see Jesus. They all went to the grave.

Everyone was sad. Jesus cried.

Then Jesus told them to take the stone away from the cave. They did. Jesus prayed to His Father and said, "Lazarus, come forth." Even though Lazarus had been dead four days, Jesus made him alive again. He wasn't even sick anymore. This did give glory to God. This miracle helped some people believe in Jesus. Others still wanted to kill him.

There are three kinds of death. Death means separation. We all will die physically, which is a separation of the soul from the body. Jesus has power over this death, and calls it a sleep. We will be united again with our glorious body on Judgment Day.

Spiritual death is separation from God. Unbelievers are spiritually dead. Jesus has power over this death when He calls unbelievers to faith. This makes them spiritually alive.

Eternal death is a separation from God forever. Once an unbeliever dies physically, he also dies eternally. Jesus has power over this death because He said "He who believes in Me will never die."

Jesus is all powerful, even over death.

Something to Think About - Find these words in the puzzle below.

BETHANY
MARY

MARTHA
LAZARUS

DEATH
LIFE

RESURRECTION
JESUS

ETERNAL
SPIRITUAL

REDEEMER
PHYSICAL

R E S U R R E C T I O N P
E G L V P K T F B S F F H
D E A T H F E L E X J G Y
E X Z S P I R I T U A L S
E M A O L M N F H J V A I
M A R T H A A E A M I D C
E R U W C B L D N O R F A
R Y S J E S U S Y H N B L

Recalling the Story - Match the correct answer with the question.

- _____ 1. Where did Lazarus live?
- _____ 2. Who were his sisters?
- _____ 3. Why did they call Jesus?
- _____ 4. Why didn't Jesus come right away?
- _____ 5. How did Jesus help them?
- _____ 6. What does death mean?
- _____ 7. Who has power over death?

- A. He knew that raising a dead person would show more glory to God.
- B. A separation.
- C. Bethany
- D. Raised Lazarus from the dead, and made him completely well.
- E. Mary and Martha
- F. Jesus, Son of God
- G. Lazarus was sick, and they had faith that Jesus could make him well.

Passages

John 11:25 - Jesus said to her, "I am the Resurrection and the Life.
He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."

Hebrews 11:1 - Now, faith is the substance of things hoped for,
the evidence of things not seen.

Job 19:25 - For I know that my Redeemer lives.

Hymn - TLH #200 v. 1, 7, 8

I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my everliving Head.

He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives,
"I know that my Redeemer lives!"

Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus,

We are sorry that we have sinned and deserve death. Thank You for giving us this story to show us that You have the power over death. Give us the faith to believe these words, and the strength to spread it to others. In Your name, Amen.