**A Sickness, A Sepulchre, and A Supper**

**John 11:1, 32-44**

**John 12:1-2**

**1**[**Now a certain *man* was sick, *named* Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-1/)

**32**[**Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-32/)

**33**[**When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled,**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-33/)

**34**[**And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-34/)

**35**[**Jesus wept.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-35/)

**36**[**Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him!**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-36/)

**37**[**And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-37/)

**38**[**Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-38/)

**39**[**Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been *dead* four days.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-39/)

**40**[**Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-40/)

**41**[**Then they took away the stone *from the place* where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up *his* eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-41/)

**42**[**And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said *it*, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-42/)

**43**[**And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-43/)

**44**[**And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-44/)

**1**[**Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-12-1/)

**2**[**There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-12-2/)

**INTRO:**

**1. Notice A Sickness**

**John 11:1 1**[**Now a certain *man* was sick, *named* Lazarus,**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-1/)

**\*\*This sickness was necessary for . . .**

 **a. The Sake of the Divine Being**

**John 11:4 4**[**When Jesus heard *that*, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-4/)

 **b. The Sake of the Disciple’s Belief**

**John 11:14-15 14**[**Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-14/) **15**[**And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe;**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-15/)

**\*\*When we don’t understand why bad things happen, the Lord knows, and we can trust that He knows exactly what to do.**

**2. Notice A Sepulchre**

**John 11:38 38**[**Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-38/)

**John 11:43 . . .** [**he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-43/)

 **a. No matter how bad the stink, Jesus could handle it!**

 **b. No matter how big the stone, Jesus could handle it!**

**3. Notice A Supper**

**John 12:2 2**[**There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-12-2/)

 **a. Death did not take away the Friendship.**

 **b. Death did not take away the Feast.**

**\*\* In this text, we see what Jesus did for Lazarus, but we can also see what He can do for the person who is still lost and in sin today.**

**\*\* So let’s look at this story and relate it to what the Lord does for sinners like you and me.**

**Body**

**I. THE CONDITION OF LAZARUS**

 **A. He Was Dead**

**John 11:14 14**[**Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-14/)

**\*\*Let’s compare this Lazarus Man to a Lost Man**

**(One is a Physical Death, and the other is a Spiritual Death.)**

 **1. He has No Activity**

 **2. He has No Appetite**

 **3. He has No Ambition**

 **4. He has No Awareness**

 **a. No Response to the Spiritual Presence**

 **b. No Reaction to the Spirit’s Power**

**\*\*Why? Because just like Lazarus, the Lost are dead!**

 **B.  He Was Decayed**

**John 11:39 . . . Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days.**

**\*\*Sickly Death and Sinful Death stinks, and both will . . .**

 **1. Decompose You**

 **2. Deteriorate You**

 **3. Discolor You**

 **4. Dissolve You**

**C.  He Was Doomed**

**John 11:32 32**[**Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-32/)

**\*\*Everyone had given up on Lazarus, and sometimes we give up on the Lost, but it always makes a difference when Jesus passes by!**

 **1. There was Hope for Lazarus, and there’s Hope for the Lost!**

 **2. There was Help for Lazarus, and there’s Help for the Lost!**

**\*\*Do not give up on trusting Jesus to save your lost family and your lost friends!**

**II.  THE CALL OF LAZARUS**

**John 11:43 43**[**And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-11-43/)

 **A. It Was A Personal Call**

**\*\*This was a personal call because Jesus involved . . .**

 **1. A Particular Place**

**\*\*Jesus was at the right door, and when He makes a call to a lost person He will always be at the right heart’s door!**

 **2. A Particular Person**

**\*\*Jesus called Lazarus’ name in particularly, and He will call a lost person’s name in particularly when he calls!**

**Illustration: One lost man asked a saved man about his salvation experience and asked, “When you say that the Lord spoke to you, was it an audible voice that you heard?” The saved man responded and said, “Oh no, friend. It was much louder than that!”**

 **B. It Was A Precise Call**

 **1. It included Precise Information**

**\*\*Jesus calls to precise individuals by name!**

 **2. It included Precise Instructions**

**\*\*Jesus will tell you to “Come forth,” and when he does, you better come forth and give your life to Him!**

 **C. It Was A Powerful Call**

 **\*\*This call is powerful enough to . . .**

 **1. Bring you out of Death and into Life!**

 **2. Bring you out of Darkness and into Light!**

**\*\*Are you dead in your sins without hope or without help?**

**\*\*Is the Lord calling your name today to come forth?**

**III.  THE CHANGE OF LAZARUS**

**John 11:44 Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.**

**\*\* When the call of the Lord came to this man in that tomb, and when that call was heard and heeded by Lazarus, everything changed for him.**

 **A. It Brought Life**

 **1. He was Alive and had Fellowship!**

 **2. He was Alive and had Friendship!**

 **3. He was Alive and had Family!**

**\*\*No matter how dead in sin you may be, when the Lord calls you out of death and darkness, you can have fellowship, friendship, and family with God and His people!**

 **B. It Brought Liberty**

**\*\*You can never know what liberty is until the Lord . . .**

 **1. Frees you from Sin**

 **2. Frees you from Sorrow**

 **3. Frees you from the Sepulchre**

**\*\*When you are saved by the grace of God, you don’t look dead or like death!**

 **C. It Brought Light**

**\*\* The Bible says that the face of Lazarus was covered with a napkin. Because of that covering, Lazarus was in darkness, but when the napkin was removed, he saw the light!**

**\*\*When God removes death’s napkin from your eyes, you will see the light in the Scripture, the Songs, and in the Sermon!**

 **D. It Brought Luxury**

 **1. Sitting before Him was a Supper!**

 **2. Sitting before Him was a Savior!**

**\*\*One day for us who have been raised out of the deadness of sin, we will have a Supper sitting before us and a Savior sitting before us!**

**\*\*As a matter of fact, sometimes we already do! Our sweet Lord shows up and feeds us from His table!**

**\*\*What a luxury we have to be sitting in heavenly places!**

**CLOSE**

**1. Some people ask, “How does anybody live without Jesus?” The answer is simple:**

 **a. First, they are not living without Jesus – their dead, decaying and doomed!**

 **b. Second, they do not even realize their living without Jesus because they are dead in sin!**

**2. So let me ask you . . .**

 **a. Is Jesus calling your name from Sin’s Sickness?**

 **b. Is Jesus calling your name to come forth out of Sin’s Sepulchre?**

 **c. Is Jesus calling your name to come forth to the Savior’s Supper?**

**\*\*If he is calling your name and saying, “Come forth,” you better come forth right now!**