

March 17, 2024

## Out of the Grave John 11 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

Vol. 14 Num. 11

### Using This Study

#### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

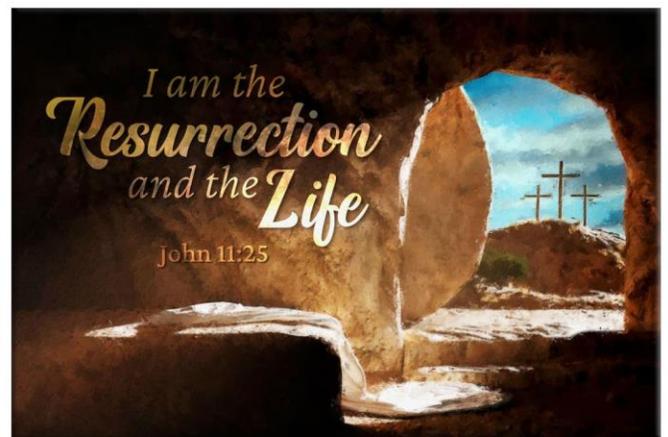
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

#### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

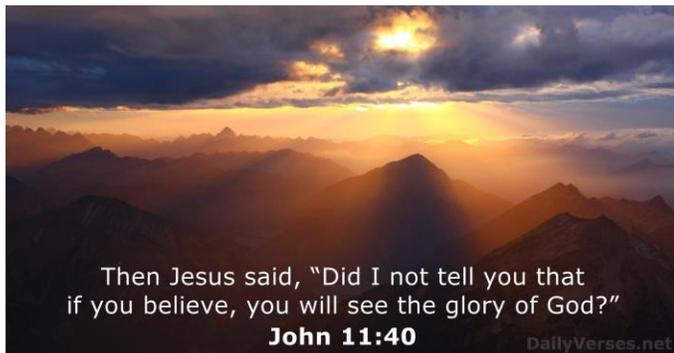
What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

#### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



John 11 contains a well know and significant account of Jesus. One of Jesus' friends, Lazarus, dies. When Jesus goes to see him He is deeply moved by the mourning of friends and family. Jesus tells them "I am the resurrection and the life" and He calls Lazarus out of the grave. Jesus displays His power over life and death. Join us this week as we talk about life and death and how Jesus gives us hope in the face of death.



## The Death of Lazarus

**11** Now a certain man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village where Mary and her sister Martha lived. <sup>2</sup> (Now it was Mary who anointed the Lord with perfumed oil and wiped his feet dry with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.) <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, look, the one you love is sick." <sup>4</sup> When Jesus heard this, he said, "This sickness will not lead to death, but to God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." <sup>5</sup> (Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.)

<sup>6</sup> So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he remained in the place where he was for two more days. <sup>7</sup> Then after this, he said to his disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup> The disciples replied, "Rabbi, the Jewish leaders were just now trying to stone you to death! Are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup> Jesus replied, "Are there not twelve hours in a day? If anyone walks around in the daytime, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But if anyone walks around at night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."

<sup>11</sup> After he said this, he added, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep. But I am going there to awaken him." <sup>12</sup> Then the disciples replied, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." <sup>13</sup> (Now Jesus had been talking about his death, but they thought he had been talking about real sleep.)

<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, <sup>15</sup> and I am glad for your sake that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup> So Thomas (called Didymus) said to his fellow disciples, "Let us go too, so that we may die with him."

## Speaking with Martha and Mary

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had been in the tomb four days already. <sup>18</sup> (Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, <sup>19</sup> so many of the Jewish people of the region had come to Martha and Mary to console them over the loss of their brother.) <sup>20</sup> So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary was sitting 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 grant you."

<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, "Your brother will come back to life again." <sup>24</sup> Martha said, "I know that he will come back to life again in the resurrection at the last day." <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live even if he dies, <sup>26</sup> and the one who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup> She replied, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God who comes into the world."

<sup>28</sup> And when she had said this, Martha went and called her sister Mary, saying privately, "The Teacher is here and is asking for you." <sup>29</sup> So when Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> (Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still in the place where Martha had come out to meet him.) <sup>31</sup> Then the people who were with Mary in the house consoling her saw her get up quickly and go out. They followed her, because they thought she was going to the tomb to weep there.

<sup>32</sup> Now when Mary came to the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the people who had come with her weeping, he was intensely moved in spirit and greatly distressed. <sup>34</sup> He asked, "Where have you laid him?" They replied, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup> Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup> Thus the people who had come to mourn said, "Look how much he loved him!" <sup>37</sup> But some of them said, "This is the man who caused the blind man to see! Couldn't he have done something to keep Lazarus from dying?"

### **Lazarus Raised from the Dead**

<sup>38</sup> Jesus, intensely moved again, came to the tomb. (Now it was a cave, and a stone was placed across it.) <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the deceased, replied, "Lord, by this time the body will have a bad smell, because he has been buried four days." <sup>40</sup> Jesus responded, "Didn't I tell you that if you believe, you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you that you have listened to me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always listen to me, but I said this for the sake of the crowd standing around here, that they may believe that you sent me." <sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he shouted in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup> The one who had died came out, his feet and hands tied up with strips of cloth, and a cloth wrapped around his face. Jesus said to them, "Unwrap him and let him go."

### **The Response of the Jewish Leaders**

<sup>45</sup> Then many of the people, who had come with Mary and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in him. <sup>46</sup> But some of them went to the Pharisees and reported to them what Jesus had done. <sup>47</sup> So the chief priests and the Pharisees called the council together and said, "What are we doing? For this man is performing many miraculous signs. <sup>48</sup> If we allow him to go on in this way, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away our sanctuary and our nation."

<sup>49</sup> Then one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said, "You know nothing at all! <sup>50</sup> You do not realize that it is more to your advantage to have one man die for the people than for the whole nation to perish." <sup>51</sup> (Now he did not say this on his own, but because he was high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the Jewish nation, <sup>52</sup> and not for the Jewish nation only, but to gather together into one the children of God who are scattered.) <sup>53</sup> So from that day they planned together to kill him.

<sup>54</sup> Thus Jesus no longer went around publicly among the Judeans, but went away from there to the region near the wilderness, to a town called Ephraim, and stayed there with his disciples. <sup>55</sup> Now the Jewish Feast of Passover was near, and many people went up to Jerusalem from the rural areas before the Passover to cleanse themselves ritually. <sup>56</sup> Thus they were looking for Jesus, and saying to one another as they stood in the temple courts, "What do you think? That he won't come to the feast?" <sup>57</sup> (Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who knew where Jesus was should report it, so that they could arrest him.)

**o EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

**What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.**

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

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**🕒 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community Group discussion)

**What does God MEAN?**

1. Why do you think Mary and Martha sent word to Jesus?
2. What is Jesus referring to when He talks about the daytime vs. night?
3. Why does Thomas say let us go too so that we may die?
4. What did Martha believe God would grant in verse 22?
5. What does Jesus mean when He says “I am the resurrection and the life”?
6. Why did the Pharisees not want Jesus to continue performing miraculous signs?
7. How does Caiaphas prophesy without knowing it?

③ **EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)  
Why does this MATTER to me?

8. Should we mourn death? Explain

9. How can John 11 give us confidence in this world?

10. What is the main idea of this chapter? How does it apply to your life?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to **KNOW**, to **FEEL**, and to **DO**...

*Sermon Notes*