

# JOHN 11 Study (NLT) "RESURRECTION" March 14, 2010 Vineyard Church • Great Falls, Montana

• **MAIN POINT:** Jesus has overcome death for us all. The dead only sleep.

• **11:1-16 Lazarus is dead.** There was a family especially dear to Jesus - Mary, Martha and their brother, Lazarus. It was Martha who cooked a big meal for him. Luke 10:40 It was Mary who anointed Jesus with expensive \_\_\_\_\_. The Master receives word from the sisters that Lazarus, "*the one you \_\_\_\_\_, is very sick.*" "Jesus tells the disciples that Lazarus' sickness will not end in \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus is going to let him die. In fact, under the direction of the Father he waits \_\_\_\_\_ more days so that Lazarus has been dead for 4 days before he arrives at \_\_\_\_\_. He speaks of Lazarus' dying as falling \_\_\_\_\_.

The disciples thought that he meant that Lazarus was getting \_\_\_\_\_. So Jesus tells them plainly that Lazarus is dead but that his dying is for the glory of \_\_\_\_\_, because when the disciples see Lazarus raised from the dead it will give them another \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ in him. V15 Bethany was only 2 miles from Jerusalem. Jesus' enemies were trying to kill him. So \_\_\_\_\_ said, "Let's go, too —and \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus."

11:14 SICKNESS and GOD'S GLORY: Like with the man born blind in John 9, Lazarus' death was not to be permanent earthly sorrow and loss. It would be temporary. As Jesus gave sight to the blind man, He gives earthly life back to Lazarus. However, it was used to bring attention - to shine light on—to give glory to God. If these men were asked if it was okay with them that this bad thing happened to them, certainly they would have said, "Yes!"

The Master said of Lazarus' dying, "*Lazarus is dead. And for your sake, I am glad I wasn't there, because this will give you another opportunity to believe in me."* V11

11:7 TWO DAYS Popular medical opinion among the Jews was that a person might swoon some way up to three days but by the 4th day they were surely dead. When Jesus arrived on the 4th day, there was no question then that Lazarus was dead. If he was brought back to life, it would be a certain miracle!

11:11 FRIEND: Jesus calls Lazarus "*Our friend.*" He is "*my*" friend -the friend of God. The Greek language has a number of words for love: family love (STORGE), sexual love (EROS), God's type of sacrificial love (AGAPE) and the love between friends (PHILOS). The word PHILOS is used here. It means a sense of liking, warm affection, congeniality. Preferring of the other. Enjoyment of the other's company with a desire to spend time with them. A memory of good times shared over food and

drink. Long conversations about things that matter. Laughing together and weeping together. The true friend is loyal. He or she would never say or do anything to damage the well being, success, and reputation of their friend. • Though AGAPE (self-sacrificing love) is considered the highest form of love, in another sense PHILEO is a higher form. It is because the Father, Son and Holy Spirit love us that they sacrificed for our salvation. Family love is fulfilled when the children grow up to be friends to their parents. Marriage love is most secure and delightful when husband and wife enjoy each other. • Mary, Martha, and Lazarus were Jesus' friends. He hung out with them. He commonly ate at their table and spent the night in their beds. The Scripture says Moses was God's friend. David was God's friend. The Master called the 12 disciples friends.

11:11 SLEEP The scripture does not ever consider that a person who dies exists no more.

Jesus said of Jairus' daughter, who had just died, "*Why all this weeping and commotion? The child isn't dead; she is only asleep.*" Mark 8:39 When the body dies, the spirit lives on in a disembodied form, ready to be awakened and be resurrected into new bodies when Jesus comes the last time. Of that day it is written..."*Those who sleep in Jesus*" will be raised before those still alive on earth. I Thessalonians 4:14 Christians sleep because they have "*already passed from death to life (entered resurrection)*" when they came to Jesus. John 5:24

• **11:17-27 I AM (as Jehovah) the resurrection!!!** When they arrive at Bethany, Lazarus' sister \_\_\_\_\_ comes out to meet them. She says, "*Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask. Jesus told her, "I \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_. Those who believe in me though they \_\_\_\_\_ like \_\_\_\_\_ else, will live \_\_\_\_\_. They are given \_\_\_\_\_ life for \_\_\_\_\_ in me and will never \_\_\_\_\_. Do you believe this, Martha?" "\_\_\_\_\_ Lord, I have \_\_\_\_\_ believed you are the \_\_\_\_\_, the one who has come into the \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_."*

• **11:25 I AM RESURRECTION:** This is the 5th "I Am." (Bread of Life, Light of the World, the Door, the Good Shepherd) Resurrection is each person's spirit (their personality, unique identity) being given a glorified body to live in for eternity." 2 Corinthians 5:1-7

• **11:28-44 Lazarus comes out.** As he approaches the tomb, a cave carved out of the rock, the other sister, \_\_\_\_\_, meets him \_\_\_\_\_, saying as her sister, "*Lord, if you had been here my brother would not have \_\_\_\_\_.*" When Jesus saw her weeping, he was moved with \_\_\_\_\_ (at the work of

the Devil who had the power of death- Hebrews 2:14) and was deeply \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_. God wept at the pain and sorrow of the human condition. Jesus goes to the tomb- commands the \_\_\_\_\_ covering the entrance to be rolled away. Martha says that there will be a terrible \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus says, "Didn't I tell you that you will see \_\_\_\_\_ glory if you believe?" Jesus then speaks to the Father, "Father thank you for hearing me. You always hear me...Then Jesus \_\_\_\_\_. 'Lazarus, come \_\_\_\_\_!' and he did. "Unwrap him and let him \_\_\_\_\_!" If the Son sets you free (even from death itself), you are free indeed." John 8:32

- **LAZARUS SLEEPS:** Things that are not Christian truths. That we are reincarnated--we come back again and again until some time in the distant future we may have perfected ourselves enough to be absorbed into the god mass--like a bit of tapioca. (2) That we cease to exist. (3) That we live on as a spirit floating around. (4) That we become angels. Angels, as glorious as they are, are not made in the image of Christ like we are and are not destined to be as the bride of Christ. Hebrews 1:14
- **11:35 JESUS WEPT:** This is God weeping and grieving over our troubles and sorrows. We love because we are like Him. He is love. (I John 4:8) "God so loves that...Jesus came to save us. Will you believe God loves you no matter what you've done or are like? What God wants back first is our love for Him.
- **11:38 TROUBLED / GROANED:** *Embrimomenous* in the Greek means "to snort" as an expression of anger or displeasure. A & G Greek Lexicon. This is the same word that is used when Jesus was confronted by a demon who was making somebody's life miserable and when he rebuked the (devil caused) storm at sea. Jesus is angry at the devil who had the power of death for what he had done to Lazarus, His friend, and to all of us. See Hebrews 2:14-16 Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil. I John 3:8
- **11:45-57 Put the Savior to death!** The religious leaders of Israel believe in the same way the Devil believes. They believe Jesus raised the dead and may be their God, but their response is to plot Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_.

**What Does This Scripture Say To You?** \_\_\_\_\_