

## Episode #1-42 – For the Glory of God

I. The purpose of the gospel of John is to produce believers in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the One anointed by God to be the Savior of the world, and that Jesus is the Son of God, God represented in human form.

II. In this passage, we begin to examine the seventh, greatest sign in the gospel of John revealing Who the Lord is. This sign corresponds to second sign, the healing of a boy at a distance. This is the climax of the signs, showing Jesus is the Son of God.

III. John 11:1-16. The dead man Lazarus.

- A. V.1. Lazarus (Whom God Helps, Eleazar in Heb.) of Bethany (House of Dares/Misery, at Mount of Olives, 2 miles from Jerusalem.) The town of Mary (Maria, Their Rebellion) and Martha (She Was Rebellious,) the Lord's friends (Luke 10:38-42). He needs God's help, for he is sick = strength worn out, exhausted by illness, close to death.
- B. V.2. This has not happened yet (John 12) Doesn't care about giving it away.
- C. V.3. Sent *apostello*. Love is Greek *philo*, friendship love. They were apparently His friends before He began His ministry? This is a high recommendation for them, to be the Lord Jesus' friends! Sick = sinking, weakening.
- D. V.4. Death is not the ultimate result, but glory to God. This is not always true of illness. Resurrection is what glorifies God, not death. The glory of God is not the cause of the illness, but the result. This shows that God and the Son are equals.
- E. V.5. What a statement! Loved = Greek *agapao*, highest, self-sacrificing form of love. This is true of us too!
- F. V.6. Their messengers probably expected Him to pack up and come.
- G. V.7. His disciples probably thought He wasn't going after two days!
- H. V.8. John 8:59, 10:31. These problems would renew when He returned.
- I. V.9. Their days were from sunrise to sunset. The light of day shows the way.
- J. V.10. Dark at night = stumbling. They had no electric lights! His point: walking in the way of God does not result in stumbling.
- K. V.11. He tells them the sad truth: Lazarus is dead. In Greek, *katheudo*=voluntary sleep, and is never a figure for death. *Koimaomai*=unintentionally falling asleep, can be used for death. The word used is *koimaomai* here.
- L. V.12. They do not recognize the figure. Insomnia was a symptom of his disease, so sleep would mean recovery. They didn't understand what the Lord said, but maybe they didn't want to understand Him.
- M. V.13. John plainly tells us that He was speaking of Lazarus' death.
- N. V.14. The Lord makes it clear.
- O. V.15. Him not being there will result in them believing. We too can believe through this book! They are going to him in spite of his death.
- P. V.16. Thomas speaks. Usually called "doubting," but unfairly. Thomas & Didymus = "The Twin." A pessimist. He thinks the Lord will die in Judea. He is loyal, though. He is ready to die with Him.

IV. Conclusion: The Lord loved these people, but that did not mean He stopped Lazarus from dying. Yet his death would be to the glory of God when he was raised from the dead. Our own resurrections will bring the Son of God glory as well, praise God! Do we believe it?