

THAT YOU MAY KNOW

Day & Night
John 10:40-11:16
October 9, 2022

"If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." -John 11:9-10

I. FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

- Mary and Martha seek out Jesus, ostensibly to keep their brother from dying (Mark 1:30, 5:21-23).
- Lazarus' illness, and death, painful as it was to his family and friends, was not without a purpose (Ex. 11:4; Psalm 119:67, 71; Vs. 5; John 9:3).
- Because Jesus loved Lazarus, he patiently waited for him to die (Vs. 5).

II. WALKING IN THE LIGHT

- The disciples are concerned for Jesus' safety, a concern that Jesus does not share with them (Vss. 7-10).
- If we walk in the light, we need not fear. Only in the darkness do unforeseen events cause us to stumble. We are wise to walk in the light of day (Vss. 9-10; John 8:12, 9:4-5).
- Jesus, as the divine Man, knows that Lazarus has passed away. He must be very blunt with his disciples for them to understand what is taking place. We simply do not understand the ways of God (Vss. 11-14; Isa. 55:8-11).
- Jesus is glad that he was not with Lazarus when he became ill. Now, a teaching moment is available to his disciples, Lazarus' family, and us. We cannot see the end of the story, but God can (Vss. 14-15; Isa. 46:8-11; Rom. 8:26-28).
- Action is now demanded. Jesus will now go to Lazarus, even though he could have healed him from a distance. Thomas is ready to go to, even if it means death (Vss. 15-16; John 14:36-38).

KNOW: Jesus worked according to his own timetable. He made notable exceptions for some he loved, but he set his own agenda. That agenda at times brought pain and grief into some lives, but it was always according to God's will, and for God's glory.

DO: Walk in the day, and trust in your Sovereign God. He is working for your good.

Suggested Reading:

When the Stars Disappear: Help and Hope from Stories of Suffering in Scripture by Mark Talbot (Available in the LifePoint Library).

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read John 10:40-11:16

1. What is this narrative about? Why set up the story to Lazarus' resurrection this way?
2. If Jesus truly loves Lazarus, why does he let him die?
3. Why is Jesus unafraid to return to Judea?
4. What do his words concerning walking in day or walking in night mean for us? How should we respond to this teaching?
5. Thomas is known to us as a doubter. What can we learn from the Thomas we see in this text?
6. What is your application from this text? How will it impact you personally?