

THAT YOU MAY KNOW

Lazarus, Come Out!
John 11:28-44
October 23, 2022

When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." - John 11:43-44

I. JESUS—THE COMPASSIONATE ONE

- After Martha's interaction with Jesus, Mary is called for, and she too comes to Jesus, bearing the same question/concern that Martha had expressed (Vss. 28-33).
- Jesus is "deeply moved" by Mary and the crowd's tears. This likely indicates more indignation than it does deep sympathy, although both are possible, even at the same time (Vs. 33; 1 Thess. 4:13-18).
- Seeing Jesus moved to emotion, the crowd makes two observations:
 1. Jesus must have loved Lazarus.
 2. If Jesus loved Lazarus, why did he not heal him?

II. JESUS—THE POWERFUL ONE

- Jesus moves to the burial cave and asks for the stone to be removed. Martha gently objects—she has no desire to observe her brother's decay (Vs.39).
- Jesus' rebuke to Martha is a rebuke to most of us as well. Why do we work so hard against the revelation of God's glory? (John 4:47-49).
- Jesus' prayer is meant for public consumption. It is heartfelt, but it is a vocalized prayer meant to teach. It is a model for us as much as it was for the watching crowds (Vss. 41-42).
- Jesus, calling Lazarus specifically, demands the dead man to come out of his grave. One day, he will do the same for all of us (Vs. 43; Daniel 12:2; 1 Thess. 4:16).
- Jesus is able to perform this incredible sign "by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself" (Phil. 3:17-4:1).

KNOW: Jesus is compassionate, and powerful. He demands faith, but offers what we need to place that faith in him. He gives so much more than he takes.

DO: Know about, learn about, and believe in Jesus as he claims, and proves, to be.

Suggested Reading:

Basic Christianity by John R.W. Stott (LifePoint Library #230 STO)

The Work of Christ: Contours of Christian Theology by Robert Letham (Available in the LifePoint Library).

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read John 11:28-44

1. Mary comes only after being summoned by Jesus. Why is that, do you think? How were Mary and her sister Martha different?
2. Why do both Mary and Martha tell Jesus that he could have saved their brother?
3. Why does Jesus ask where they have laid Lazarus? Isn't he God? Doesn't he know all things?
4. Why was Jesus "deeply moved" and "troubled in spirit" do you think?
5. Martha is hesitant about removing the stone to the tomb. Why? Does she believe in Jesus or not?
6. Why does Jesus pray before performing the great sign?
7. What did you learn from this passage/message? What is helpful for you?