

John 11:1-16

John 11:1-5 – *“(1) Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. (2) (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.) (3) Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick. (4) When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby. (5) Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.”*

- A. Mary and Martha had shown hospitality to our Lord in the past (**Luke 10:38-42**).
 - 1. There is a distinction made about the relationship between our Lord and Lazarus (cf. **II Samuel 1:17-26** and **Proverbs 18:24**).
 - a. Jesus certainly loves all of His disciples (**John 13:1, John 13:34, and John 15:8-10**).
 - b. We see phrases similar to “he whom thou lovest” again, which APPEAR to be about Lazarus (**John 13:23-26, John 19:26, John 20:2, John 21:7, and John 21:20**).
 - 2. Jesus did not just have this love for Lazarus, but also for Martha and Mary (**John 11:5**).
- B. Jesus foretells that Lazarus will live, for He will raise Lazarus from the dead (**John 12:1**).
 - 1. God is made known and glorified when His miracles are performed (**John 9:1-3 and Acts 4:18-22**).
 - 2. The glory of the Father and the Son are tied together (**John 13:31 and John 17:1**).
 - 3. Raising the dead certainly allows God to be magnified (**Mark 5:35-42**).
 - 4. Just as Jesus did, we should seek to bring glory to our Father (**I Corinthians 10:31 and I Peter 4:11**).

John 11:6-10 – *“(6) When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was. (7) Then after that saith he to his disciples, Let us go into Judæa again. (8) His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again? (9) Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world. (10) But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.”*

- A. Jesus wanted to go into Judæa, where they wanted to kill Him (**John 7:1**).
 - 1. Jesus knew when to go to Judæa and He knew when His time would come to be put to death (**John 7:3-8; 25-31**).
 - 2. No one needed to worry about Jesus making a bad decision about anything, for He knew what was to come (**Luke 13:31-33 and John 18:1-4**).
 - 3. No one was going to attack our Lord by surprise (**John 2:23-25**).

B. Jesus was the light of the world so that those with Him were not walking in darkness (**John 8:12** and **John 12:35-36**).

1. Those in the light do not stumble (**I John 2:10**).
2. Those who abide in the darkness do not have a relationship with the Lord (**Acts 26:18** and **I John 1:5-7**).
3. Wisdom and understanding keep one from stumbling (**Proverbs 3:13-23**).

John 11:11-16 – *“(11) These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. (12) Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. (13) Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. (14) Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead. (15) And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him. (16) Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellowdisciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him.”*

A. Jesus had to be clear about the kind of sleeping Lazarus was doing, for there were two things that could have been meant in Jesus' statement (cf. **John 16:25**).

1. He was resting is one possible meaning (**Mark 14:39-42**).
2. He was dead is another possible meaning (**I Thessalonians 4:13-18**).

B. Jesus was not glad that Lazarus died (**John 11:34-36**).

1. The gladness expressed by our Lord was to the extent that the disciples would witness another evidence of His identity, which is why many things occurred (**John 12:23-30**).
2. Our Lord did all that He could to solidify the faith of His disciples (**John 17:6-8**).

C. Thomas was willing to go and die with the Lord, for that was the threat if the Lord went into the region of Judæa (**John 11:7-8**).

1. The disciples of our Lord were willing to SAY they'd die for the Lord (**Mark 14:27-31**).
2. The disciples sure did not stick around when the time of our Lord's death arose (**Matthew 26:31**, **John 16:29-32**, and **Mark 14:46-50**).
3. That being said, those really converted to Christ are most certainly willing to die for Him (**Acts 5:17-42**, **Acts 7:51-60**, **Acts 20:17-24**, and **Revelation 2:10**).