
Power over Death

John 11:1-53

1. What is the purpose of the passage? Why did God choose to incorporate this narrative into the Gospel of John?
2. What did Jesus mean when he said to his disciples, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? 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)
3. What can we learn about Jesus perfect timing by observing that Jesus delayed in going to heal Lazarus before he died?
4. Mary & Martha both responded to Jesus’ arrival differently. Their response shows how each of them had faith, but an incomplete understanding of Jesus plan and sovereignty. Jesus does not rebuke them for their response, but comforts them. Describe their responses and Jesus reactions to them.
5. John 11:33 & 38 tell us that Jesus was deeply moved by the hurt caused by the death of Lazarus. John 11:35 tells us simply, “Jesus wept.” What was so moving to Jesus, and why do you think he wept with them if He know that He was there to raise Lazarus from the dead?
6. John 11:41-43 is Jesus prayer to God to raise Lazarus. How does this demonstrate a perfect faith? Why did Jesus thank God for hearing him? Does this mean that if we pray with this faith or conviction that all our prayers will be answered in the same way?
7. John 11:45-53 show us the response of the Pharisees who saw Jesus as a threat to their power and control. They knew that if they gave into Jesus they might lose their position of leadership in Israel. How do we sometimes today have to make choices to follow Jesus even though there may be sacrifices here on earth.