

Raising Lazarus for Jesus' Glory

John 11:1-45

Every tribulation that comes to those God loves is for the glory and greater knowledge of God.

I. God will be glorified in the tribulations of His beloved.

A. Lazarus was loved by Jesus -v3

John 11:3 — ³ So the sisters sent word to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick."

B. Jesus was going to be glorified by the tribulation of Lazarus and his family -v4

John 11:4 — ⁴ But when Jesus heard this, He said, "This sickness is not to end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it."

1. Paul backed up this teaching -**Rom 8:28**

II. Sometimes God delays in helping the righteous.

A. Jesus tarried two more days -v5-6

John 11:5-7 — ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when He heard that he was sick, He then stayed two days longer in the place where He was.

III. God uses His tardiness so that we grow in faith.

A. Jesus delayed so that they would believe in His power v14-15

John 11:14-15 — ¹⁴ So Jesus then said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵ and I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, so that you may believe; but let us go to him."

B. Lazarus was four days in the grave v17

John 11:17 — ¹⁷ So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days."

1. **Observation:** Jesus could not have arrived in time if He had left immediately.

C. What was the purpose in the delay?

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IV. God wants us to have a deep knowledge of Him.

A. Martha had an intellectual knowledge of Jesus v23-27

John 11:23-27 — ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I have believed that You are the Christ, the Son of God, even He who comes into the world."

B. Martha did not have an experiential knowledge of Jesus's might power v39-40

John 11:39-40 — ³⁹ Jesus said, "Remove the stone." Martha, the sister of the deceased, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there will be a stench, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

1. Trials give the believers the experiential knowledge of the mighty power of Christ.
2. All we have to do is remove the stone and let God work.

V. God always delivers in a way that will give the greatest glory to His Son Jesus. -- **John 11:41-44**

- A. Jesus' delay left no doubt that Lazarus was truly dead.
- B. Lazarus' resurrection proved Jesus is the Resurrection and Life.
- C. Lazarus' resurrection caused the salvation of many. -v45

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