

When God Shows Up: Seven Miracles in John

Lesson 9

John 11:1-57

July 10, 2022

Back From Beyond

INTRODUCTION

In John 11, we have contrasting events of love versus hate. The Son of God weeps in love because of Lazarus' death. The Pharisees hate Jesus and plot to kill Him for the miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead. The Bible only records three times that Jesus cried (Luke 19:41; John 11:35; Hebrews 5:7-9). This is more than mere emotionalism or shallow sentimentality.

A person's perspective can distort the truth. Second-guessing an event is not the place to start. We shouldn't think things like: "[Jesus,] if you had been here, my brother would not have died." (John 11:21) Nor should we think: "If I'd only done it this way; if only I would have done such-and-such; or if I had not let this happen;" etc. The real questions should be: How is God going to use this; how might God use me; or how does God want me to help?

Memory verse: "Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" —John 11:25-26

Pray, and read John 11:1-57. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

OBSERVATION: What does the passage say?

1. What did Jesus say the purpose was for Lazarus' illness? (John 11:4)
2. When Jesus said Lazarus is just sleeping, what did the disciples think He meant? (John 11:11-13)
3. What did Martha think when Jesus told her that her brother will rise again? (John 11:23-24)
4. When the Pharisees heard that Lazarus was alive, what was their response to this miracle? (John 11:53)
5. Jesus stopped His public ministry to go the town of Ephraim with His disciples. The Passover Holy Day was near. What were people saying about Jesus, and what did the Pharisees say? (John 11:54-57)

INTERPRETATION: What do the passages mean?

1. Why did Jesus wait two days before leaving to go to Lazarus? (John 11:6, 14-15)
2. In John 11:9-10, what does Jesus mean by not stumbling during the daytime but stumbling at night? (Reading commentary on these verses is helpful to understand the metaphors He used).
3. In Luke 19:10 Jesus stated what His mission on earth was: "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." How is what Jesus did in John 11:42 different?

4. What part of John 11:48 did the Pharisees get correct?
What part did they get wrong?

APPLICATION: How do the passages apply to your life?

1. In John 11:8, the disciples called Jesus, Rabbi (teacher), not Messiah or Christ. Do you obey Jesus' teaching in the Bible for living a good life, or is Jesus the Christ of your life? Jesus is the only one who can save your eternal soul from God's wrath. How do you know that you are saved and going to be with God and not just trying to live a good life?

