

John 11

Introduction.

- A. Seventh sign, greatest miracle (cf. Mk. 5:35ff.; Lk. 7:11ff.).
- B. Connected with healing of the blind man (ch.9).
 - 1. Healing the blind man brought light.
 - 2. Raising of Lazarus brought life.
- C. Mary and Martha mentioned in Lk. 10:38; Lazarus only here.

I. Death of Lazarus (1-16).

- A. Special friendship with the family (1-6).
 - 1. The one you love.
 - 2. Probably where Jesus stayed when in Jerusalem (2 miles east).
- B. Theology.
 - 1. Not end in death.
 - 2. For the glory of God (cf. 9:3).
 - 3. “Oun” (therefore) found 19x in this chapter.
 - a. Every act has its reason.
 - b. Shows the sovereignty of God.
- C. Decision to go (7-16).
 - 1. Judea.
 - a. Not Bethany.
 - b. Place of opposition.
 - 2. Negative reaction.
 - 3. Light and darkness theme (Jer. 13:16).
 - a. Walk in the light without stumbling.
 - b. Darkness of ignorance.
 - 4. Misunderstanding.
 - a. Sleep.
 - b. Clarification.
 - c. Thomas.

II. At the tomb (17-37).

- A. Four days.
 - 1. Many Jews believed the spirit hovered near a grave for 3 days.
 - 2. Shows it is an act of God.
- B. Comforts Martha (20-27).
 - 1. She rushes out (cf. Lk.).
 - 2. Partial faith.
 - a. Regret.
 - b. Misunderstanding.
 - c. Affirmation of Jesus as the Messiah.
 - i. I am the resurrection and the life.
 - ii. Never die spiritually and physical death is temporary.
- C. Comforts Mary (28-32).
 - 1. Had stayed back (cf. Lk.).
 - 2. Similar conversation as with Martha.
- D. Strong display of emotion (33-35).
 - 1. Wept.
 - 2. Crowd weeping is a different word -- hired mourners.
- E. Reaction (36-37).
 - 1. Misunderstanding.
 - 2. Remembered the healing of the blind man.

III. The miracle (38-44).

- A. Deep emotion.
- B. Remove the stone.
 - 1. Martha's protest.
 - 2. Response.
 - a. Glory of God (connects with first miracle, 2:11).
 - b. Those who believe.
- C. Prayer.
 - 1. God hears the one who is in his will.
 - 2. For the sake of those who were there.
- D. Lazarus, come forth.
 - 1. Loud voice -- for the crowd.
 - 2. Release him and let him go.

IV. Reaction (45-54).

A. Division (as usual).

1. Some believed.
2. Some rejected and reported to the Pharisees.

B. Meeting of Sanhedrin.

1. Afraid of Messianic fervor.
2. Self-concern.
 - a. Romans might take away their Temple and nation.
 - b. Expedient for you.
3. Unwitting prophecy.
 - a. One man to die for all.
 - b. Also for the scattered children of God.

C. Jesus retreated to Ephraim.

V. Then comes the Passover (55-57).