

IV. THE COMPASSION OF THE SAVIOUR (John 11:28-37)

A. The Call for Mary (John 11:28-30)

1. Martha sent for Mary (John 11:28).
 - a. She sent secretly; this shows us that Mary is a picture of the private life of the believer.
 - b. The Master is come.
 - c. The Master calls for you.
2. Mary responded to the call (John 11:29).
 - a. She heard the call.
 - b. She arose quickly.
 - c. She came to Jesus.
 - d. Note: Mary did not come when she heard the news that Jesus had arrived (John 11:20). She evidently took the absence of Jesus at the time of crises as a rejection by Him (John 11:32). Therefore, she waited until He personally called before she came to Him (John 11:29). She did not yet understand that God sometimes does His greatest work at times when we do not sense His presence.
3. Jesus had not yet entered the town of Bethany (John 11:30).

B. The Weeping of Mary (John 11:31-32)

1. The Jews rose up to follow Mary to the grave (John 11:31).
2. Mary fell down to worship at the feet of Jesus (John 11:32).
3. Mary voiced her struggles with the ways of her Lord (John 11:32).

C. The Weeping of Christ (John 11:33-37)

1. The compassion of Christ (John 11:33-34)
 - a. He saw the weeping of Mary and the Jews with her (John 11:33).
 - b. He groaned in the spirit and was troubled (John 11:33).
 - c. He asked to see the tomb (John 11:34).
2. The love of Jesus (John 11:35-37)
 - a. He wept at the sight of the tomb (John 11:35).
 - b. The Jews recognized His love for Lazarus (John 11:36).
 - c. The Jews realized that He could have healed Lazarus (John 11:37).

V. THE MIRACLE OF RESURRECTION (John 11:38-44)

A. The Command to Remove the Stone (John 11:38-41)

1. Their obedience requested (John 11:38-39) – “Take ye away the stone.”
2. Martha’s objection answered (John 11:39-40; Hebrews 11:1).
3. Note: believing is seeing.

B. The Command to Come Forth (John 11:41-44)

1. The prayer of Christ – 37 words (John 11:41-42)
 - a. The prayer of Elijah – 63 words (1 Kings 18:36-38)
 - b. The warning against vain repetitions (Isaiah 1:15; Matthew 6:7)
2. The command of Christ (v.43) – “Lazarus, come forth.”
3. The obedience of Lazarus (John 11:44, 25; John 5:25; 1 Thessalonians 4:16)

C. The Command to Loose Him (John 11:44) – “Loose him, and let him go.”

1. He was alive but bound.
2. He needed help from others (Romans 15:1-2).
3. Note: these three commands are instructive in how God uses man. Jesus commanded the Jews to do the things they could do: remove the stone and loose him. But Christ directly accomplished that which only He could do.
4. Note: this is a picture of how to reach the lost for Christ. We remove the stone. That is, we are to remove those obstacles that keep the dead man from Jesus. Then, Jesus must give life. Finally, we will find that the newly saved still have many grave clothes wrapped around them. We must work to help them remove these things that hinder their Christian walk.

VI. THE RESULTS OF RESURRECTION (John 11:45-57)

A. Division (John 11:45-46)

1. Belief (John 11:45)
2. Unbelief (John 11:46)

B. Opposition (John 11:47-53)

1. The fear of the chief priests (John 11:47-48; Luke 14:7-11; Proverbs 25:6-7)
 - a. He does many miracles (John 11:47).
 - b. All will believe in Him (John 11:48).
 - c. We will lose our place and nation (John 11:48).
2. The prophecy of Caiaphas (John 11:49-52; Galatians 4:4-5)

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- a. Sometimes God honors the position (John 11:49).
 - b. He prophesied that one man should die for the whole nation (John 11:50). He likely understood it to mean that the death of Christ would keep the nation from being destroyed by Him.
 - c. God gave the prophecy (John 11:51-52).
3. The strategy of the Jews (John 11:53) – to put Jesus to death
- C. Withdrawal (John 11:54-57)
1. Not able to show Himself openly (John 11:54)
 2. Sought at the time of the Passover (John 11:55-57)