

**“Who is Jesus?”: Resurrection & the Life - 3**  
**John 11:38-44**

**Introduction:**

- Read **John 11:1-44**
- Recap the purpose of this miracle: **vv.4-6** (7<sup>th</sup> and last miracle recorded)
- **John 20:30-31**, *“30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”*
- A beautiful simplicity to all this: Resurrection and the Life
- Simple command...simple belief...simple purpose: God’s glory...simple prayer...simple miracle...simple salvation.
- Jesus Christ is the RESURRECTION and LIFE!

**THE ACCOUNT**

- A) The Savior’s Heart (**v.38**)
  - a. Broken / angered over sin
  - b. Compassionate for the people
  - c. V.4 – God’s glory, in glorifying Christ, expressed in love
- B) The Savior’s Call (**v.39**)
  - a. From out of the tomb
  - b. Removing barriers
    - i. The stone (accessible and guarded)
      - 1. Cave burials
      - 2. One year return to collect bones
    - ii. Disbelief
      - 1. Not embalmed
      - 2. Spices could not cover the rot
- C) The Savior’s Exhortation (**vv.40-41a**)
  - a. Believe

- b. True belief sees God’s glory (exalts God in Christ)
- c. Convincing

D) The Savior’s Prayer (**vv.41b-42**)

- a. Father is addressed
- b. Truth declared
  - i. In thanksgiving
  - ii. Predetermined act
- c. Intimacy sought

E) The Savior’s Command (**vv.43-44**)

- a. Following Prayer
- b. Boldly Declared
- c. Resurrection
  - i. By Name
  - ii. Tightly wrapped – almost impossible to walk; wrapped by sisters, most likely
- d. Life
  - i. Unbind (think wrappings, not mummys)
  - ii. Let him go

**THE DOCTRINE**

A) Christology

- a. Humanity
  - i. Emotional
  - ii. Submissive in Prayer
- b. Deity
  - i. Giver of Life
  - ii. Oneness with God
  - iii. Death (ruled over it before His own resurrection)
- c. God’s glory
  - i. All done in all that He is (human and divine) is done for the Glory of God...perfectly
  - ii. Drives His will and passion

B) Soteriology (our statement of faith)

- (“**Salvation**”) *In its broadest sense, salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God’s grace whereby believers become new creatures in Jesus Christ. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through the conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Justification is God’s gracious and full acquittal, upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer into a relationship of peace and favor with God. Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God’s purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling within him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person’s life. Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.*
- (“**Election**”) *Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, sanctifies and glorifies sinners, and is consistent with the free agency of man and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is a glorious display of God’s sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.*
- WHAT WE WANT TO EMPHASIZE IS THAT THE GOSPEL BEGINS AND ENDS WITH GOD AND ALL OF ITS WORK IS A WORK OF GOD...pictured beautifully in Lazarus!
  - a. Regeneration (“come out”)
    - i. We are dead
    - ii. No “spices” can cover our rot (righteousness like filthy rags)
    - iii. Belief (walking out – choice follows regeneration)
      - i. Lazarus
      - ii. Martha (God’s work is on display, not Martha’s choice to allow the stone be rolled away)
      - iii. Believing is seeing (God’s glory)
  - b. Justification (“Unbind him...”)
    - i. Christ has taken on Himself the death penalty in our place, given us His righteousness so that God is satisfied with what He sees in us – His only Son!
    - ii. Some live in bonds to guilt and shame
    - iii. Know that Christ has carried that away forever
    - iv. Else, you may not be a Christian yet
  - c. Sanctification (“let him go...”)
    - i. Who would be set free from the grave and have the bindings loosed only to hang out at the tomb’s entrance?
    - ii. Some do that. Either they are reminiscent of that “place” where they were converted, or leave forgetting the tomb altogether.
  - d. Glorification (vv.23-26)
    - i. Questions of the after-life?
    - ii. Do you think Lazarus could give a description of a place that is more interesting and beautiful than the person of Christ, whom He now beholds?
      - i. **George Whitfield**, *“And now, perhaps, some may be ready to ask, What news hath Lazarus brought from the other world! But stop, O man, thy vain curiosity! It is forbidden, and therefore useless knowledge. The scriptures are silent concerning it. Why should we desire to be wise above what is written? It becomes us rather to be wholly employed in adoring the gracious hand of that mighty Redeemer who raised him from the dead, and to see (now we have heard the history) what improvement we can make of such a remarkable and instructive transaction.”*
  - iii. For His glory
    - i. This why it is such an offense that many use Jesus as a means to some other end, as if there is something more glorious than Himself!

- ii. **MacArthur** defines God's glory...*"The glory of God is the revelation of all the attributes of His person."*

### THE APPLICATION...simplicity

- A) Simple command
  - a. Employing Others
  - b. His glory
- B) Simple belief
  - a. Jesus is the Christ
  - b. Do you initially come up with excuses? (stinks!)
  - c. Belief for seeing His glory, NOT for miracles
    - i. Glory of Christ
    - ii. NOT man-centered (if not Lazarus in this moment, certainly not you or me)
- C) Simple purpose: God's glory in a glorified Christ
  - a. What He does
  - b. Why He does it
  - c. When He does it
- D) Simple prayer
  - a. To the Father
  - b. With Thanksgiving
  - c. In Faith
  - d. For Intimacy
- E) Simple miracle
- F) Simple salvation
  - a. Simply enough: Are you a Christian?
  - b. Non-Christian – you are dead and unable to save yourself. Do you see this miracle and know that it points to Jesus as the Messiah? Do you hear the Savior calling you to come out of the tomb of sin and self, embracing Him as the glorious savior of your life?
  - c. Christian – Do you live ALIVE or are you walking around, stinking up the place you are with sin, dragging your grave clothes around?
  - d. BE SET FREE... In Christ you have been freed from your bonds and are let go...so, go and be His own!