

## The Resurrection and the Life

John 11:1-45

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Jesus received a message from Martha and Mary saying, "Lazarus is very sick. Please come."

Jesus loved Martha and Mary and Lazarus, yet for two days he stayed where he was east of the Jordan. Then he said to his disciples, "Our friend Lazarus is dead. I'm going now to Bethany to wake him."

Martha heard that Jesus was on his way. She went to meet him and said, "Lord, if you had been here, Lazarus wouldn't have died. But I know even now God will do whatever you ask."

Jesus replied, "**I AM** the resurrection and the life. Whoever trusts in me will live, even if they die. Just believe."

"I believe you are the Messiah, the Son of God."

A large number of people had come from Jerusalem to offer support and comfort. Jesus heard Mary and the others weeping loudly and was deeply moved.

At the tomb, Jesus wept.

Some said, "He must really have loved Lazarus." Others countered, "Then why didn't he keep his friend from dying?"

The tomb was a cave with a large stone placed in front of the entrance. Jesus said, "Take away the stone."

Martha protested, "Lazarus has been dead for four days. There will be a terrible odor."

But Jesus said, "Martha, believe and you will see the glory of God."

They took away the stone.

Jesus called, "Lazarus, come out!"

Lazarus, a man who had been dead, came out of the tomb. He was still wrapped in the strips of linen that were used to bind the body for burial. Jesus said, "Untie him and set him free."

Many of the people who were there that day, who saw what happened, believed and placed their faith in Jesus.