

**The Raising of Lazarus**  
**John 11:1-44**  
**October 3, 2021**

**Those Whom Jesus Loves Still Face Difficulties (vs 1-3).**

Lazarus was sick and then he died. Those who loved him, particularly Mary and Martha, were grieved.

Difficulties we face may be a direct result of personal sin (consequences), sin in general or for God's name to be lifted high.

*Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him."* **John 9:1-3**

If Jesus loved Lazarus so much why did He let him get sick and why did He delay? It was not a pampering love, but a perfecting love. "We must never think that love and suffering are incompatible." ~ **Warren Wiersbe**

Verse 4 tells us this was done so that the glory of God may be revealed.

One of the biggest lies that the "contemporary/feel good Gospel" has told us is that coming to Jesus will take away suffering. Scripture actually confirms the opposite.

*These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."* **John 16:33**

**We Are To Trust God's Word No Matter What (v 4).**

It can be assumed that Jesus said verse 4 to His Disciples.

God's Word must be precious and that which we hang on to as Believers. All other things are just mere opinions.

God's Word is riddled with promises, warnings, hope and peace.

For the Believer to make it thru this world we have been given God's Word and His Spirit. We either trust what God has said or we don't.

**Let God Finish (vs 5-6).**

Remember, God's ways are not our ways. "*For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,*" says the LORD. **Isaiah 55:8-9**

Verse 5 tells us Jesus loved Martha, her sister and Lazarus and the very next verse reads, “He stayed two more days.”

God will do whatever it takes for Him to be glorified (v 4). This may even mean pain, struggle, and heartache for us, but remember, we are just passing through. So often in the struggle be it physical, mental, emotional or a hard situation we want to quit.

The disciples, Mary, Martha (to an extent) and others around had given up on what could be done for Lazarus. So many times we quit and throw in the towel before God is finished.

**If God calls us to something (job, friendship, church, situation, etc.) then God must be the one to call us away. We so often miss a blessing, an opportunity or a God moment because we quit too soon.**

**Believe God for The Impossible (v 22).**

*He said to them, “Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.”*

**Matthew 17:20**

*Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!”*

**Mark 9:24**

**Be Thankful That Jesus Grieves with Us (vs 35-36).**

The shortest verse in the Bible is verse 35, “*Jesus wept.*”

Praise the Lord Jesus knows our struggles, He has faced them. He went thru temptations, deaths, struggles and knows what we face.

*Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

**Hebrews 4:14-16**

**Prayer Focus:**

**Whatever I am in right now I will keep my eyes on Jesus realizing God wants to use it for His glory. I will keep going, I will focus on Jesus not quitting unless He says so.**