Resurrection & Life – John 11

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Introduction

- 1. John 11 is a chapter that requires the heart as well as the head. John 11 reveals the heart of Jesus.
- 2. The raising of Lazarus from the dead was not our Lord's last miracle before the Cross, but it was certainly His greatest and the one that aroused the most response both from His friends and His enemies...

I. The Family

- **a.** John 11:1-8
 - i. John 11 reveals this "special family." It was Jesus' refuge.
 - ii. Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus (11:3, 5, 36). We do this in reverse thinking that it is all about our love for Christ.
 - iii. The real issue is "Jesus loves me."
 - **iv.** The shocking part of the story is once Jesus hears Lazarus was sick He stays away from His best friend. It was four days before Jesus goes to see Lazarus.

II. Martha

- **a.** John 11:17-35
 - i. Mary and Martha made the same statement to Jesus. They were crushed.
 - **ii.** Jesus did not do what a friend is expected to do. No flowers, no visit to the funeral, and this really hurt.
 - **iii.** The greatest statement on immortality is in John 11:25-26. Jesus is the resurrection and the life!
 - 1. It brought the teaching of the resurrection out the darkness into the light.
 - 2. He took the resurrection out of a book and put into a person, Himself.
 - **3.** Finally, the greatest part was how Jesus moved the doctrine of the resurrection out of the future and into the present (Romans 6:4; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 3:10).
 - **iv.** Jesus wept is the shortest and yet the deepest verse in scripture. This reveals the humanity of the Savior.

III. Lazarus

- **a.** John 11:38-44
 - i. His best friend, Lazarus was held by death! You find, literally, life face to face with death. Jesus saw the entire focus of His life and ministry. He called Lazarus back with profound fervor.
 - ii. Because of the great change in Lazarus, many people desired to see him; and his "living witness" was used by God to bring people to salvation (John 12:9–11).
 - iii. The "trigger" to the cross was the resurrection of Lazarus, the seventh sign! The life of Lazarus is the death of Christ!
 - iv. The stage had been set for the greatest drama in history, during which man would do his worst and God would give His best.