

The Raising of Lazarus

(John 11:1-57)

Intro: The raising of Lazarus was the last and greatest of **Jesus' 7 Sign Miracles** as recorded by John. This spectacular miracle provided the final public display of Jesus' divine mastery over human problems (*sickness and death*), and offered a convincing proof of His claim to be *the resurrection and the life* (11:25-26). *Death is the great enemy of man, but Jesus is the resurrection and the life to everyone who believes in Him!*

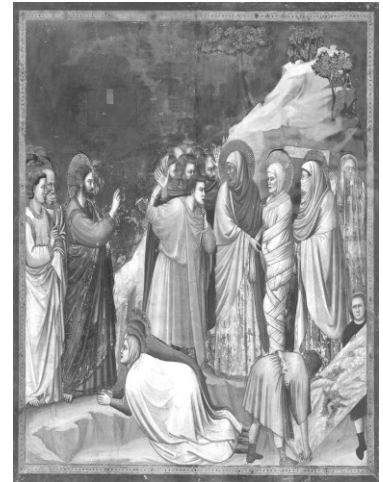
I. The Purposes for the Miracle (11:1-16)

A. The plea from Lazarus' sisters for help (vv. 1-3)

B. The purpose for Lazarus' sickness (vv. 4-5)

It was designed to demonstrate: "*the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby*" (v. 4)

C. The purpose of Jesus' delay (vv. 6-16)



II. The Performance of the Miracle (11:17-44)

A. The *lesson* for Martha (vv. 17-29) "***Jesus is the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Him shall never die!***"

B. The *love* of Jesus (vv. 30-37)

C. The *life* for Lazarus (vv. 38-44) **Jesus cried out, "*Lazarus come forth!*"** (v. 43)

III. The People's Response to the Miracle (11:45-57)

A. *Belief*—"Many *believed* in Him" (v. 45)

B. *Unbelief*—"Others went away *unbelieving* and reported to the Pharisees" (vv. 46-57)

Interpretation: "Jesus is the resurrection and the life" is stated in the miracle and is the main point. Whoever believes in Him will never die. (Note that it is the center of the chiasm, and the center of John's Gospel). **Martha's confession in vs. 27.**

- Applications:
1. **Everyone who BELIEVES in Jesus Christ will NEVER DIE!**
 2. Sickness is often designed for God's glory and our spiritual growth.
 3. I can take comfort that Jesus understands my pain, sorrow, disappointments, etc.
 4. Take courage in witnessing, even a resurrection doesn't make everyone believe.