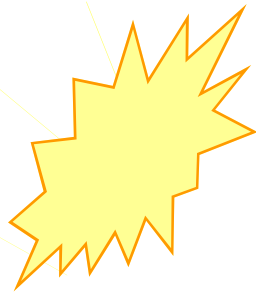


LAZARUS!
Come Forth!!



Wayne Dailey

see [John 11](#)

Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.) Therefore his sisters sent unto Him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom Thou lovest is sick.

When Jesus heard that, He said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.

Glory To
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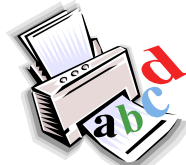
Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. When He had heard therefore that he was sick, He abode two days still in the same place where He was. Then after that saith He to His disciples, Let us go into Judaea again.

*Our friend Lazarus sleepeth;
but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.*

Then said His disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that He had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.

And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him.

Man will do what he can do; but he can only do so much.



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When he comes to the end of that, and there is nothing else he can do - then what?



Then said Martha unto Jesus, *Lord, if Thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.*

There's a passion in those words, *Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.* Would the presence of Jesus have meant all that difference?

Jesus had waited two days before starting His journey to where Lazarus was, deliberately letting time pass. There was the thing that He would do, **and** there was the time when He would do it.

The Lord knows just what we need, and just when we need it. Realize that He is with us, and always has an answer for us - but we've got to seek it out. Let's be willing to let Him work.

Lord, if you'd have been here. Martha is looking backwards at the past.

Know that Jesus can be found any time. We can always trust that He will be with us to help us.

How can He always be with us? He's here in Spirit. He's not here in a physical body, but He's here in Spirit, right here in our presence.

Did you ever stop to consider that the Lord is here? He's here because He has come in the Spirit to minister to us, to bless us, to heal us. There's such great things that He will do for us.

There's some doubt in Martha's words - *Lord, IF Thou had been here . . .* Jesus was there. She just didn't see Him.

Jesus saith unto her,
Thy brother shall rise again.



Jesus talks positive. What He says will happen will happen. What He says is going to be will be: Yes, Lazarus will rise again.

Wouldn't those words be comforting? Wouldn't they take some of that hurt out of you while you waited. Wouldn't they make a difference, and give you a joy?



Martha saith unto Him, *I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.*

This is something with which we can take courage. It helps to know that when someone who loves the Lord has died, he will rise again in the resurrection.

Speaking of rising again in the resurrection . . . at the last day. This is a Bible term that you don't want to forget - the last day, not the last day(s).

When the Bible speaks of the last day, it is speaking of the day when the Lord comes for His own, the time of the resurrection. What a great event takes place that day.

How are we going to get to heaven? I never flew without an airplane. Have you?

Jacob saw a ladder going up into heaven. He saw the angels going up and down that ladder - but that's not how we are going to go.



Jesus said unto her, *I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. Believest thou this?*

Do you want to know about the resurrection? You know this much right now: Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

This means that He is the one who is empowered to raise us up at the last day, one great day.

Let's look this over a bit further here. This is real: *and whosoever lives and believest in Me shall never die.*

Realize that if we follow the Lord, we will never die. Can you grasp that? Or have you seen too many dead people to believe it is possible?

I'm just saying what the Lord said, *He that lives and believes in Me shall never die.* I'm never going to die. No matter what happens, I am not going to have an end to my life. My life is everlasting.

And since I have everlasting life, when would I die? How am I going to die with everlasting life? Christ died for our sins, that we might have everlasting life. When do we get everlasting life?

When we believe in Jesus. It makes all the difference who we're believing in.

Everlasting life is given to us in our salvation. It's there for us. And all we need to do is take to heart and embrace what He has promised.

And whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. Believest thou this?

I'm alive today, and I believe in the Lord - therefore, I shall never die.

This is nothing man has made up. It's the Word of the Lord.

Who are you believing in for the salvation of your soul? You must believe in Jesus Christ. He's the One who saves, the One who will take you to heaven - that is, if you believe in Him to the saving of your soul.



She saith unto Him, *Yea, Lord: I believe that Thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.*

Martha knows what she believes. She's believing the right thing: *I believe that Thou art the Christ, the Son of God.* She knew who Jesus is.



And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, *The Master is come, and calleth for thee.*

Mary's going to come - but she's going to come secretly. She wants to be alone with Jesus. Now is not the time for the others to see her.

In our lives, we have this wonderful blessing of having the presence of the Lord always with us. But, too often, we fail to acknowledge what the Scriptures say is true: He will never leave us, nor forsake us - [Hebrews 13:6, 7](#).

Has He ever left you? Know that He's always there. You've got to know this: He will always be with you. How can this be?

He is omnipresent, meaning He can be present everywhere at the same time. Yes, in the Spirit, He can be present. It's not easy to understand, but it's true.


How can He raise us all at the resurrection? Who is He? Jesus Christ, the Lord, the Son of the living God. He is the One who has the might and power to do all these things.

Now, in dealing with those who have lost a loved one, we have to be careful. We want to be a help to them, even though that seems impossible.

They are hurting. They're weeping. How can we make them feel better?

Sometimes, the only way is to put our arms around them, and be there. Show them that we love them and that we care.

There are people who are suffering and so filled with hurt that just our presence, our hand on their shoulder, a few words fitly spoken, these all help in time of distress and sorrow.




As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly, and came unto Him. Now Jesus was not yet come into the town, but was in that place where Martha met Him.

Mary knows where to go; and Jesus would be there to meet her. Understand Jesus is bringing His divine presence, wanting to reach out in love.

And He wants to share with us, too. Take that seriously. He has promised to supply all our need. How faithful He is to take care of His own.

With Mary, it's a little different than it was with Martha. These two sisters are not quite the same.



Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying unto Him, *Lord, if Thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.*

The Lord wants to make something out of this that they'll remember, and that many others will remember. Here we are years later, and we can learn from this, too. It's a meaningful story, helping us to see how the Lord deals with people.


The Lord, who is the Son of God, deals with us in the same manner as He dealt with people back then. He loves us just as much as He loved them.

Here's a family that He loved with a godly love. They were important to Him. Many times He stopped by their home to spend time with them.

The Lord wants us to see that He comes near to us. He cares about what happens to us. He knows what we go through, and He understands.

We want to be in that place where we're always willing to yield to Him, letting Him have His way with us. He knows what we need. He knows when we're hurting. He knows when the pain is greater than we can bear.

He knows all these things. Nothing is hid from Him.



When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, He groaned in the spirit, and was troubled, and said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto Him, Lord, come and see.

Jesus groaned in the spirit when He saw them weeping. He was greatly concerned for them.

If we are in the Spirit during our time of prayer, this could happen to us too; there are times that we would groan in the spirit when we pray .

Then He asked, *Where have you laid him?*


Now, verse 35 is the shortest verse in the Bible: **Jesus wept.** Jesus is touched with their sorrow and their weeping.

This would tell you something about His feelings for us, as well. He was affected by what they were going through, and is affected by what we're going through. Why? because He cares.

Then said the Jews,
Behold how He loved him!


This would show you from the natural standpoint that He did really love them. And we would want to think, then, how much He loves us, too.

The Scriptures give illustrations of how much He loves even the little children. Once in awhile He would take a child up in His arms to bless him - Mark 10:14-16. Yes, He loves us all, both young and old.

 And some of them said, *Could not this Man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?*

Others are wondering why Lazarus died when Jesus had the power to heal him. This account is meant to be a memorial in the Scriptures for us, as something we should remember.


It was an event that played a big part in this family, and it should play a big part in our lives as well.

 **Jesus therefore again groaning in Himself cometh to the grave.** It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

Now, what is going to happen at this graveyard? Something has to happen. Often people will ask a preacher, *Why don't you do something?*

What do you want me to do? - *do something!*

Jesus is here. What more do you need to know?

 Jesus said, *Take ye away the stone.*

Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto Him, *Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days.*

Lazarus was buried in a cave with a big stone covering the opening. It was bigger than one person could roll away.

Jesus asked that they take away the stone. He's got something on His mind! He knows just what to do, and just when to do it.

You've got to know that God knows what to do, and He knows what to do - right now. He knows just what to do for you; and He knows just what to do for me.

He knows when we are troubled and vexed. And He knows the answer that we need.

This should always be a comfort to our hearts, that we can be in the place where we'll see how God will help us.

So what are you going to do? Take away the stone from the place where the dead is laid.

What are you going to put over your nose? Lazarus has been there in the grave in a hot climate. He's been there for four days, maybe more. And his body has begun to stink. A body doesn't lay very long in a hot place before it starts to really decay.

And a decaying body smells terrible.



Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up His eyes, and said, *Father, I thank Thee that Thou hast heard Me.*

Jesus is sure in what He's doing. He knows that what He says is going to come to pass. He knows His Father **always** hears His prayer.

What is going to happen here? I think it's plain enough for us to see. Jesus wants us to know that when He prays, His Father always hears Him.

When we pray, does God always hear us? We would hope that He always hears us. But there's another step to this - does He always answer?

Is **No** an answer? Could No be an answer?


I John 5:14, 15

And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth us: and if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.

We want God to hear us, for we know if He hears us pray, then we will get the answer.

Jesus always got an answer. When He was casting out devils, they all had to leave. There wasn't any time when He could only cast out some because the rest wouldn't leave.

Jesus had the power to meet each and every need. He had that might and that power, and did all those great works. And He still has that power today.

 *And I knew that Thou hearest Me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that Thou hast sent Me.*

Jesus was really there with those people. This man, Lazarus, was going to be lifted out of the grave. It's all going to be because Jesus had the answer. He knew what He was going to do.

Now, when we need an answer, we should look to God more sincerely and put a little more effort in finding a way to get alone to pray and draw closer to Him.

If we did this, we would get more answers from God in prayer.

But, too often, some just don't have the time to pray. They don't have the time to sit down and read their Bible.

And, yet, they're wanting God to do great things.



And when He thus had spoken, He cried with a loud voice, *Lazarus, come forth.*

Jesus just lifted up His voice, and called Lazarus to come forth.

What's going to happen? Just what He said, that's what's going to happen. What He came to do - that's what's going to happen. What the will of God is - that's what's going to happen.

It's not going to be the will of man. This is God doing a work. This is God's Son, Jesus Christ, taking from the mouth of God the things which God had directed His heart to do.



And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin.

Jesus saith unto them,

Loose him, and let him go.

Here's a man four days dead in the grave, and he's up and running. He's alive!! He's really alive to the glory of God.

Jesus had said that this sickness was for a purpose. What was that purpose? For the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.

All this was done to show us the might, the power, the compassion of Jesus - what He could do, and what He did do.

This is our Lord. This is our Saviour. He can do anything. Raising the dead is not a great chore to Him. All He has to do is speak.

He merely said, *Lazarus come forth..*

He didn't go into the tomb to get him. He merely called him, and he came.

Lazarus was all bound up with graveclothes, and Jesus told them to loose him, and let him go.

All of this happened in a short time in one family. How much Jesus loved that family. How much He really loved them.

Doesn't this mean something to you? How He loved them is how He loves you. You've got to know that He really loves you.

If you've got problems and troubles, know that He has a way to help. He'll get you through.

You could be down and out, and have nothing. But if you would just cry out, the Lord knows how to bring you food.

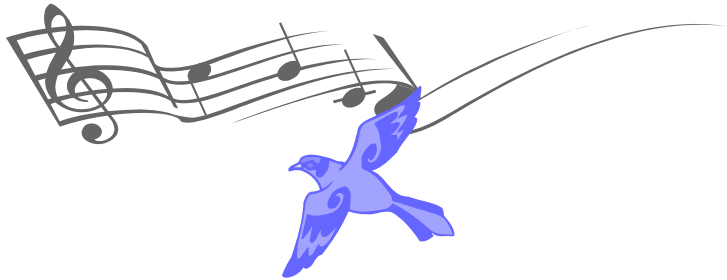
The ravens flew Elijah's food to him out there by the brook. Use a bird to feed us? Could a bird do that? They did!



Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on Him. But some of them went their ways to the Pharisees, and told them what things Jesus had done.

Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, *What do we? for this Man doeth many miracles. If we let Him thus alone, all men will believe on Him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation.*

If we let Him alone, everybody will believe on Him! I surely believe on Him with all my heart, mind, soul, and strength. Do you believe on Him?



God's Great Love

I am amazed at God's great love
Sent by Him from heaven above;

Love for me that never fails
But always triumphs and prevails;
Love that saved my sinful soul,
Set me free and made me whole;
Love that surrounds me day by day
Causes me to want to pray;
Love so precious to my soul
Fills my heart and takes control.

Oh! how marvelous is His love
That He has sent from heaven above.

The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying,
Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love:
therefore with lovingkindness
have I drawn thee.

Jeremiah 31:3



Patricia Dailey
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