

John # 173

“May We Talk About Death?”

*John 11 Introduction cont.; Lk16:19-31; Luke 10:38-42*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:17: “For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.”**

In times of prosperity and good health, most people have no time for God but serious illness or life-threatening injury will cause practically everyone to at least consider God and anything that causes us to consider Him is ultimately very good for us.

*Ever notice how people react to death? They won't even use the words: death, dying or dead; they say he passed away, she's no longer with us or they've gone on to be with the Lord but the Lord Jesus Christ did not sugarcoat the issue of dying.*

**WHAT IS A MAJOR PREMISE IN JOHN 11?**

**If the Lord Jesus can raise Lazarus from the dead, He can raise us also to new and everlasting life with Him not only to be experienced in Heaven after our physical death but right here and now we can enjoy the abundant life He promises to all who follow Him but that's of course, if we're willing to trust Him and believe what He says.**

The resuscitation of Lazarus is the most powerful sign as to Who Jesus Christ is—the Son of God, Israel's promised Messiah, the Savior of the entire world and it previews our Lord's death, burial and resurrection.

**In John 11, Lazarus, 4 days dead, has been raised to life and without challenging the validity of that claim, the Pharisees respond with fear, anger which often follows fear and complete rejection of the Miracle Worker.**

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is an undeniable fact when the evidence is considered objectively although many deny it or try to explain it away to relieve them of any and all responsibility and accountability.

*In secret, the Jewish leadership planned the murder of their nemesis, Jesus of Nazareth and the irony is that they displayed more fear of the people of Israel and the government of Rome than they had for Almighty God whom they claimed was so near to them.*

**Mary was a woman who was open to biblical truth and therefore, she had a completely relaxed mental attitude toward virtually everything in life.**

Every time the Lord Jesus was at Mary's house, she was there with Him and while she was there, she kept on listening to Him in a relaxed manner with a humble, consistent positive attitude that makes any woman absolutely beautiful.

*In her doctrinal understanding, Mary is considerably far beyond all of the male disciples.*

Both believing sisters heard the teaching of Jesus to the extent that Mary who was positive became more relaxed but Martha who was negative toward His teaching, yet positive toward the details of life, became more miserable.

**People with constant mental attitude sins are plagued with self-induced misery because they become hypersensitive concerning all issues related to themselves.**

The anticipated crisis of having the Lord Jesus Christ as a house guest did not change who Martha was,  
it simply revealed who she was.

*Those with mental attitude sins always blame others for their failures.*

Only an arrogant fool competes with the Lord Jesus.

**Martha is doing what she wants to do but because she is negative toward biblical truth with the mental attitude sins that result, she is miserable even while doing what she wants to do!**  
It's not what we're doing that makes us happy, it's what we were thinking before and then while we're doing what we're doing that shapes our outlook.

*Those who teach biblical truth from the Lord Jesus Himself to the prophets of old to the pastor-teachers of today are not anyone's valet.*

*Martha is a chronic worrier.*

**Note: Jesus did not turn to Mary and say: "Go and help your sister."**

The Lord Jesus is gentle yet firm in His rebuke of Martha.

*Martha is a chronic worrier.*

If we are believers in Jesus Christ and the Word of God is not the most important thing in our lives, we've missed the point of the Christian life.

Often times negative believers try to hide their rebellious attitude by extensive working at the church to attempt to somehow ease the pain of their suffering from lack of peace in Christ.

**Mary made the right decision while Martha made the wrong one.**

The written Word of God will carry us where and how the Living Word of God would have us go.