

Love, Purpose, and Glory

As I have been thinking about the resurrection of Jesus, John 11 comes to mind.

Over the next few days we are going to walk through some of John 11 and see what the Lord would have us learn.

READ John 11:1-3

The Problem

Lazarus is sick.

This isn't just some random guy to Jesus.

This is a family that Jesus cares deeply for.

Mary anointed Jesus with oil and wiped His feet with her hair.

This was a family of people who uniquely served Jesus.

Though they confess Jesus as Lord, they also know He loves them.

The love of Jesus for this family was obvious.

And yet, Lazarus is sick.

IMPORTANT: The love of Jesus doesn't mean the absence of sickness and trial.

The sickness of Lazarus brings another problem into sharp focus.

Our Problem

All of us are sick.

I am not talking about disease or virus. I am talking about sin.

Romans 3:23 states that all have sinned.

The consequence or penalty of that sin is death according to Romans 6:23.

We have the same problem as Lazarus! We are sick and dying.

The disobedience of Adam and Eve caused sin to enter the world bringing with it things like viruses and pandemics.

The presence of sickness and death reminds us of the reality of sin.

Every time there is sickness, every time someone dies. There is meant to be a sense of wrongness within us.

This is not the way God made the world to be! Sickness and death are intruders!

This reality is intended to drive us to the solution.

The Solution v. 3

When Lazarus got sick, they knew there was only one place to turn. Jesus.

Mary and Martha knew that in order for Lazarus to be healed, Jesus needed to step in.

This solution is the same for you and me.

Personal Solution

The sickness of sin only has one solution. Jesus.

In Acts 4:12 Peter declares “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Jesus is the answer for the problem of sin.

This week is commonly referred to as the passion week.

It is all about how Jesus became the solution for the problem of sin.

We are quickly approaching the day He died followed by His glorious resurrection!

He invites you and me to place our faith in Him for salvation.

What will it take for you to turn your heart to Him?

It is no accident that there is so much turmoil in our world right around Easter. Right around our celebration of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Death couldn't conquer Jesus and neither will COVID 19.

An Explanation v. 4

This is how Jesus responds to hearing that someone He loved was sick.

Some sickness is for the glory of God.

What is about to be put on display is how God can use sickness and death to strengthen our faith and draw people to Himself.

In every situation there is the ability to glorify God.

Anytime sick people get well, God is glorified.

When a lost soul comes to saving faith in Jesus Christ, God is glorified.

The global situation in which we find ourselves is not out of God's control.

He has a reason, plan, and purpose for all things.

Even when we don't understand, we choose to trust Him.

TAKEAWAY

God loves you.

God's love doesn't mean we never suffer.

God has a plan for what we are facing.

Jesus is the greatest expression of God's love.

Jesus is the answer to our problem of sin.

Jesus will give hope, comfort, and purpose in the midst of present difficulty.