

Resurrection: a
new birth and a
new person

John 11:1-27

- 1 Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.
- 2 It was that Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.
- 3 Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, “Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick.”
- 4 When Jesus heard that, He said, “This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

- 1 Il y avait un homme malade, Lazare, de Béthanie, village de Marie et de Marthe, sa soeur.
- 2 C'était cette Marie qui oignit de parfum le Seigneur et qui lui essuya les pieds avec ses cheveux, et c'était son frère Lazare qui était malade.
- 3 Les soeurs envoyèrent dire à Jésus: Seigneur, voici, celui que tu aimes est malade.
- 4 Après avoir entendu cela, Jésus dit: Cette maladie n'est point à la mort; mais elle est pour la gloire de Dieu, afin que le Fils de Dieu soit glorifié par elle.

- 5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.
- 6 So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was.
- 7 Then after this He said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.”
- 8 The disciples said to Him, “Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?”
- 9 Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.

- 5 Or, Jésus aimait Marthe, et sa soeur, et Lazare.
- 6 Lors donc qu'il eut appris que Lazare était malade, il resta deux jours encore dans le lieu où il était,
- 7 et il dit ensuite aux disciples: Retournons en Judée.
- 8 Les disciples lui dirent: Rabbi, les Juifs tout récemment cherchaient à te lapider, et tu retournes en Judée!
- 9 Jésus répondit: N'y a-t-il pas douze heures au jour? Si quelqu'un marche pendant le jour, il ne bronche point, parce qu'il voit la lumière de ce monde;

10 But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.”

11 These things He said, and after that He said to them, “Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up.”

12 Then His disciples said, “Lord, if he sleeps he will get well.”

13 However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep.

10 mais, si quelqu'un marche pendant la nuit, il bronche, parce que la lumière n'est pas en lui.

11 Après ces paroles, il leur dit: Lazare, notre ami, dort; mais je vais le réveiller.

12 Les disciples lui dirent: Seigneur, s'il dort, il sera guéri.

13 Jésus avait parlé de sa mort, mais ils crurent qu'il parlait de l'assoupissement du sommeil

14 Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead.

15 And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him."

16 Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

17 So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days.

14 Alors Jésus leur dit ouvertement: Lazare est mort.

15 Et, à cause de vous, afin que vous croyiez, je me réjouis de ce que je n'étais pas là. Mais allons vers lui.

16 Sur quoi Thomas, appelé Didyme, dit aux autres disciples: Allons aussi, afin de mourir avec lui.

17 Jésus, étant arrivé, trouva que Lazare était déjà depuis quatre jours dans le sépulcre.

18 Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away.

19 And many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.

20 Now Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house.

21 Now Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.

18 Et, comme Béthanie était près de Jérusalem, à quinze stades environ,

19 beaucoup de Juifs étaient venus vers Marthe et Marie, pour les consoler de la mort de leur frère.

20 Lorsque Marthe apprit que Jésus arrivait, elle alla au-devant de lui, tandis que Marie se tenait assise à la maison.

21 Marthe dit à Jésus: Seigneur, si tu eusses été ici, mon frère ne serait pas mort

22 But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You.”

23 Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

24 Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.

22 Mais, maintenant même, je sais que tout ce que tu demanderas à Dieu, Dieu te l'accordera.

23 Jésus lui dit: Ton frère ressuscitera.

24 Je sais, lui répondit Marthe, qu'il ressuscitera à la résurrection, au dernier jour.

25 Jésus lui dit: Je suis la résurrection et la vie. Celui qui croit en moi vivra, quand même il serait mort;

26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

27 She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

26 et quiconque vit et croit en moi ne mourra jamais. Crois-tu cela?

27 Elle lui dit: Oui, Seigneur, je crois que tu es le Christ, le Fils de Dieu, qui devait venir dans le monde.

John 10:17-18

- 17 “Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again.
- 18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.”

Resurrection

- Greek word: *anastasis*
- Raising up; rising; to cause to stand again
- Raising up to life from the dead
- Implying a tremendous power that is able to overcome and defeat death
- There must first be a condition of death
- Without death, there cannot be resurrection

Resurrection is not a thing, nor just a historical event

- Jesus Christ died on the cross, and resurrected on the third day
- Jesus resurrected bodily
- These are historical facts
- All believers will resurrect in the future: Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”
- Yet resurrection is not merely a historical fact, nor is it just an event that will take place in the future

Resurrection is a person

- Jesus said to her, “**I am the resurrection** and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.

Resurrection can be known by us

- That I may know Him and **the power of His resurrection**, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death (Philippians 3:10)

Resurrection is not even, strictly speaking, the coming to life of the dead, as in the case of Lazarus

- Lazarus was raised from the dead, undoubtedly. He was dead, and then was brought back to life.
- But is that resurrection?
- What is resurrection?

Resurrection is a birth

- God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: ‘ You are My Son, Today I have begotten You’ (Acts 13:33)
- Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead (Romans 1:1-4)

Resurrection is not merely bringing back to life

- Resurrection is not resuscitation
- In the case of Lazarus, Lazarus was raised from the dead, but then died again
- Resurrection is not temporary revival
- Resurrection is a birth, a metamorphosis
- Something changes, from one state to another
- The old state dies, to enter into a new state through birth

Jesus Christ was born as the Son of God through resurrection

- Jesus Christ was the only begotten Son of God from eternity past
- As God, He was born as a man in His incarnation. This was His first birth
- Yet, as a man, in His humanity, He needed to be born again, that is, His humanity needed to be brought into divinity, so He could be declared the Son of God
- This happened on the day of His resurrection, the day that He was « born », not as a man, but as the Son of God. This was His second birth

We go through what Jesus went through

- We are born as human beings. That is our first birth, a birth of the flesh:
- That which is born of the flesh is flesh (John 3:6)
- We are born again when we receive Jesus as our Saviour and our life:
- That which is born of Spirit is spirit (John 3:6). That is our second birth, a birth of spirit
- When we believe in Jesus, we are resurrected. We receive Jesus as the resurrection
- We undergo a radical change, from the old to the new, from death to life

The way to experience the resurrection is to believe in Jesus!

- Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. **He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.**”
- Resurrection is not just a future event. It is now.
- Jesus is the resurrection
- Resurrection is not a feeling or a happy condition. Resurrection is the very person of Jesus Christ
- When we believe in Jesus Christ, we are raised from the dead, and we become a new person.
- In other words, we are born again

To believe in Jesus requires us to die

- Die to our concept
- Die to our way of thinking
- Die to the thought that we can live our own life without God
- Die to the thought that we are self sufficient and capable
- To believe in Jesus means that I acknowledge that I need a Saviour
- To believe in Jesus means that I acknowledge that I am not, but Jesus is
- I put to death my ambitions, my independence, my pride, my boast
- I realize that my life is off the mark, out of sink.
- It is only when I « die » that I can experience Jesus as the resurrection

Resurrection is like a seed that dies in the ground, and then grows

- ...What you **sow is not made alive unless it dies** (1 Corinthians 15:36)
- **So also is the resurrection of the dead.** The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, **“The first man Adam became a living being.” The last Adam became a life-giving spirit** (1 Corinthians 15:42-45)

Resurrection only occurs when everything is hopeless

- The case of Abraham:
- (as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”) in the presence of Him whom he **believed—God, who gives life to the dead** and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; who, **contrary to hope, in hope believed**, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, “So shall your descendants be” (Romans 4:17-18)

God will do nothing as long as we are alive

- As long as I am alive, that is, as long as I hold on to what I can do, to my ability, I can never experience the resurrection power of Jesus Christ
- When I consider myself dead, that is, when I realize I can do nothing, then God will come in to resurrect me
- A good example is prayer.
- Prayer means that I am not able to do anything. Prayer affords God a way to operate and to bless
- Our ability can never bless the church and cause people to grow
- It is only God who can resurrect people
- All we can do is believe and depend on God
- This means that we need to die, as a seed.

Death in us, resurrection in others

- But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. **For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you (2 Corinthians 4:7-12)**

Resurrection first, then life:

« I am the resurrection and the life »

- First we need resurrection, then life
- If we are not willing to die, to experience death, we cannot experience life
- In Romans 4, the order is contrary to chronology: first resurrection, then life
- God first gives life to the dead (the raising of Isaac as resurrection), then calls things not being as being (the giving of Isaac as life)
- Because Abraham was willing to die to his natural life that wanted to hold on to Isaac
- I first must be raised from the dead, then I can experience the life of God
- I must be willing to be released from the bondage of death (resurrection power) before I can experience life

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| Resurrection is a person: Jesus Christ | First there is death, then resurrection | Resurrection is a birth | First resurrection, then life |
| Jesus is the resurrection | As a seed dies, so we need to die to who we are, our natural man | Resurrection is not mere revival, but it is a life-changing process | First we must go through death, before we can enjoy God's life |
| All the power of resurrection, the power over death, is in the person of Jesus Christ | When we die, we experience resurrection. The price that needs to be paid is death | A transformation from one state to another. Jesus went through this process | Example of Abraham: real enjoyment of Isaac (life) could only be gained when Isaac was offered (death and resurrection) |
| Jesus Christ resurrected from the dead to defeat death | When we die, others can experience life. Death in us, but life in others | By believing into Jesus Christ, we are born again. Our whole life is a life of resurrection | |