

Who is God? – the resurrection

John 11:17-27

Q) If a man fed the 5000, turned water into wine, and healed a blind man, do you think you would believe if he claimed he could raise a man from the dead?

Q) How many days was Lazarus dead by the time Jesus arrived?

R) 4 days

Q) Why do you think Jesus waited this long before getting there?

R) Verse 14-15, “14 So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead, 15 and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” He wants to make it beyond a shadow of a doubt his power. Just keeping a man alive could have been seen as coincidence but raising a man after 4 days was a power never seen before.

Q) Why does the writer of John tell us how far Bethany is from Jerusalem?

R) He wants to heighten the awareness of the reader of how much risk Jesus took coming this close to Jerusalem with rising hatred of the Jewish leaders. It demonstrates his love for Lazarus

Q) Why does Martha go out to meet Jesus?

R) It allows her to speak freely and expose how she is feeling to Jesus without the religious ceremony and the listening ears of the Jews gathered there.

Q) There is some confusion to us (Matthew and I) as to whether Mary and Martha are together and Mary chooses to stay behind when Martha leaves or whether only Martha found out because later on in verse 29 Mary is told Jesus is calling for her and she leaves immediately. What do you guys think?

R)

Q) What does verses 21 tell you about Martha's faith?

R) She has full confidence that Jesus' presence has healing and saving power

Q) What does verse 22 tell us about her what she is hoping for? What story might she have heard to give her this hope?

R) She had a tentative hope of resurrection. Mark 9:21 Jesus raises a synagogue leader's daughter back to life.

Q) Do you guys think you have faith like Martha?

Q) What do you think the meaning is behind Jesus' declaration in verse 23?

R) This statement becomes true in an immediate sense, when Jesus resurrects him but also serves to draw Martha's thoughts to the future and eternity holds. (Victoria in a few questions we will talk about salvation and eternal life so hold your horses)

Q) Do you think that verse 24 comes with disappointment or excitement for Martha?

R) I think that she is reminded the general truth of the resurrection and yet perhaps is disappointed as she feels that maybe Jesus won't resurrect him in the present.

Q) What is Jesus communicating with verse 25, "Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;"?

R)

1) even in Martha's hour of agony, he turns her thoughts to him, with belief in him death and life need have no hold over her

2) Martha previously mentions in v22 how God will give Jesus whatever he asks but here Jesus clearly establishes himself as God, not a prophet calling on the power of God, "I am"

3) It establishes how we obtain salvation; we believe in him. WE were dead in sin, under a sentence of condemnation as all mankind are and Jesus's death enables us to have forgiveness and NEW LIFE in him.

Q) How can someone die and also not die? What are the two types of death Jesus is referencing?

R) physical and spiritual death.

Q) What is Marthas declaration of faith?

R) I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.

Q) As Jesus asks Martha, Do YOU believe this?

PRAY