

# I AM the Resurrection and the Life

John 11

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John: The I AM (*ego eimi*) statements of Jesus. From the Hebrew word for God, Yahweh!

- John 6: I AM the **Bread** of Life.
- John 7: Come to me ... thirsty..., and I will give you Living Water.
- John 8: I AM the **Light** of the World.
- John 9: I AM the **Light** (in a spiritually blind world).
- John 10: I AM the **Gate** and the **Good Shepherd**.

Two Halves of John: Public works.

**The Seven “Signs”** (Jesus' seven signs illustrate some particular aspect of his divine authority):

- **Water into wine** (John 2:1–11):  
**New life and joy** that Jesus brings to us through His presence and His work of redemption.
- **Healing a royal official's son** (John 4:46–54):  
The **power of asking and faith** in healing.
- **Healing a disabled man** (John 5:1–15):  
Illustrated **the authority of Jesus and His ability to heal**, to overcome seemingly insurmountable challenges and bring about profound healing and restoration.
- **Feeding 5,000** (John 6:1–14): **Jesus' provision** and care for those in need.
- **Walking on water** (John 6:16–21): **Reassurance in fears** and presence in storms.
- **Healing a man born blind** (John 9:1–12): Spiritual and physical sight.
- **Raising Lazarus from the dead** (John 11:1–43): Victory over death and hope of eternal life; waking the spiritually dead.

Each of these miracles demonstrated Jesus' power in a different area of human experience. They are called "signs" because they point to something beyond themselves. In most cases, these signs were followed by a confession of belief on the part of many of the spectators ([2:11](#); [4:53](#); [6:66](#), [69](#); [9:38](#); [11:45](#)).

## THE FINAL SIGN: ENDING HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY SIGNIFICANT SHIFT ON THE PART OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS

*"A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha. <sup>2</sup> This is the Mary who later poured the expensive perfume on the Lord's feet and wiped them with her hair. Her brother, Lazarus, was sick. <sup>3</sup> So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, "Lord, your dear friend is very sick." (John 11:1-3)*

### 1. Setting: Players and Places

Lazarus.

Martha: The busy One. *"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, <sup>42</sup> but few things are needed –or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."* (Luke 10:41-42)

Mary: *"The one who made the right choice"* HCSV

The one who anointed Jesus (Chapter 12).

Message sent... We are running out of hope - prayer...

Lazarus, sick and dies.

### 2. Conversation with the Disciples (John 11:4-16)

*<sup>4</sup> But when Jesus heard about it he said, "Lazarus's sickness will not end in death. No, it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this."*

**Central Passage** (see John 20:31): *"But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name."*

Just as in chapter 9, when Jesus said, *"but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him."* (9:3b)

**EVEN IN DEATH, WE CAN CLAIM THE GLORY OF GOD; WHY?**

**BECAUSE WE HAVE BEEN SET FREE FROM THE CHAINS OF SIN AND DEATH!**

Romans 8:2: *"And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death."*

*<sup>5</sup> So although Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup> he stayed where he was for the next two days. <sup>7</sup> Finally, he said to his disciples, "Let's go back to Judea."*

WHAT??? The disciples protested...

*<sup>8</sup> But his disciples objected. "Rabbi," they said, "only a few days ago the people in Judea were trying to stone you. Are you going there again?"*

*<sup>9</sup> Jesus replied, "There are twelve hours of daylight every day. During the day people can walk safely. They can see because they have the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But at night there is danger of stumbling because they have no light."<sup>11</sup> Then he said, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but now I will go and wake him up."*

<sup>12</sup> *The disciples said, “Lord, if he is sleeping, he will soon get better!”* <sup>13</sup> *They thought Jesus meant Lazarus was simply sleeping, but Jesus meant Lazarus had died.*

<sup>14</sup> *So he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead.”* <sup>15</sup> *And for your sakes, I’m glad I wasn’t there, for now you will really believe. Come, let’s go see him.”*

"Jesus considered this an opportunity for a supreme demonstration of power that would certify the Father's accreditation of him as the Son and confirm the faith of the sisters and the disciples. He was certain of the outcome."

<sup>16</sup> *Thomas, nicknamed the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let’s go, too –and die with Jesus.”*

### 3. The Conversation with Martha –The Busy one (John 11:17-27)

<sup>17</sup> *When Jesus arrived at Bethany, he was told that Lazarus had already been in his grave for four days.* <sup>18</sup> *Bethany was only a few miles down the road from Jerusalem,* <sup>19</sup> *and many of the people had come to console Martha and Mary in their loss.* <sup>20</sup> *When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed in the house.* <sup>21</sup> *Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died.”* <sup>22</sup> *But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask.”*

"When Jesus finally arrives in Bethany Lazarus has been dead for four days. This note is significant. There was a well-known Jewish belief (attested from about a.d. 200) that the soul of a dead person remained in the vicinity of the body “hoping to reenter it” for three days, but once decomposition set in, the soul departed."

<sup>23</sup> *Jesus told her, “Your brother will rise again.”*

<sup>24</sup> *“Yes,” Martha said, “he will rise when everyone else rises, at the last day.”*

<sup>25</sup> *Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.”* <sup>26</sup> *Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?”*

<sup>27</sup> *“Yes, Lord,” she told him. “I have always believed you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who has come into the world from God.”*

Jesus clarifies that faith in Christ is what brings about never, ever dying... eternal life! Do you believe?

### 4. Conversation with Mary. The one who made the right choice (John 11:29-33)

<sup>29</sup> *So Mary immediately went to him.*

<sup>30</sup> *Jesus had stayed outside the village, at the place where Martha met him.* <sup>31</sup> *When the people who were at the house consoling Mary saw her leave so hastily, they assumed she was going to Lazarus’s grave to weep. So they followed her there.* <sup>32</sup> *When Mary arrived and saw Jesus, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died.”*

<sup>33</sup> *When Jesus saw her weeping and saw the other people wailing with her, a deep anger welled up within him, and he was deeply troubled.* <sup>34</sup> *“Where have you put him?” he asked them.*

*They told him, “Lord, come and see.”* <sup>35</sup> *Then Jesus wept.* <sup>36</sup> *The people who were standing nearby said, “See how much he loved him!”* <sup>37</sup> *But some said, “This man healed a blind man. Couldn’t he have kept Lazarus from dying?”*

## 5. The Raising of Lazarus (John 11:39-44)

<sup>39</sup> *“Roll the stone aside,” Jesus told them.*

*But Martha, the dead man’s sister, protested, “Lord, he has been dead for four days. The smell will be terrible.”*

<sup>40</sup> *Jesus responded, “Didn’t I tell you that you would see God’s glory if you believe?”* <sup>41</sup> *So they rolled the stone aside. Then Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, thank you for hearing me.”* <sup>42</sup> *You always hear me, but I said it out loud for the sake of all these people standing here, so that they will believe you sent me.* <sup>43</sup> *Then Jesus shouted, “Lazarus, come out!”* <sup>44</sup> *And the dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in grave-clothes, his face wrapped in a head-cloth. Jesus told them, “Unwrap him and let him go!”* <sup>45</sup> *Many of the people who were with Mary believed in Jesus when they saw this happen.*

Jesus Prayer: Hands lifted praying aloud to the Father...

Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead!!! STOP and THINK.

## 6. The Prophecy of the High Priest (John 11:46-57)

<sup>46</sup> *But some went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done.* <sup>47</sup> *Then the leading priests and Pharisees called the high council together. “What are we going to do?” they asked each other. “This man certainly performs many miraculous signs.”* <sup>48</sup> *If we allow him to go on like this, soon everyone will believe in him. Then the Roman army will come and destroy both our Temple and our nation.”*

<sup>49</sup> *Caiaphas, who was high priest at that time, said, “You don’t know what you’re talking about!* <sup>50</sup> *You don’t realize that it’s better for you that one man should die for the people than for the whole nation to be destroyed.*”

<sup>51</sup> *He did not say this on his own; as high priest at that time he was led to prophesy that Jesus would die for the entire nation.* <sup>52</sup> *And not only for that nation, but to bring together and unite all the children of God scattered around the world.*

<sup>53</sup> *So from that time on, the Jewish leaders began to plot Jesus’ death.* <sup>54</sup> *As a result, Jesus stopped his public ministry among the people and left Jerusalem.* *He went to a place near the wilderness, to the village of Ephraim, and stayed there with his disciples.*

<sup>55</sup> *It was now almost time for the Jewish Passover celebration, and many people from all over the country arrived in Jerusalem several days early so they could go through the purification ceremony before Passover began.* <sup>56</sup> *They kept looking for Jesus, but as they stood around in the Temple, they said to each other, “What do you think? He won’t come for Passover, will he?”*

<sup>57</sup> *Meanwhile, the leading priests and Pharisees had publicly ordered that anyone seeing Jesus must report it immediately so they could arrest him.*

- R Redeeming
- E Emmanuel
- S Sustaining
- U Unending
- R Righteousness

**R** Revealed  
**E** Eternally  
**C** Confirmed  
**T** To  
**I** Individuals  
**O** One  
**N** Nature