

The Glory Of God In Sickness

July 5, 2026

John 11:28-44

No. 4

We've been walking with Jesus and His disciples to Bethany where Lazarus, who Jesus loved was sick. When word got to Jesus, He stayed 2 days longer where He was, then He headed to Bethany where Lazarus lived.

But,

By the time Jesus got there, Lazarus had died.



Martha came out to meet Jesus and said, If You were here he wouldn't have died.

Then Mary came out and said, If you were here He wouldn't have died. There was something they did not know and I don't think the disciples did either but Jesus did say before HE left for Bethany;

Jn 11:4 *This sickness is not to end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it."*

You see,

Things that happen to us are not necessarily for us but for God's glory.

So,

We've been talking about sickness and how that can bring God glory.

We saw last time it was in preparing for sickness

1. Live ready to bear it patiently when it comes
2. Live ready to help bear someone else's sickness

3. Live ready to meet God

This is a lesson all people need to learn whether healthy or sick, but especially the sick.

When are you prepared to meet God?

Never, until your sins are forgiven.

Let's go to Bethany now and see what Jesus does.

Jn 11:28 *When she had said this, said what?*

v.27 *She *said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I have believed that You are the Christ, the Son of God, even He who comes into the world."*

v.28 *When she had said this she went away and called Mary her sister, saying secretly, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you."*

v.32 *Therefore, when Mary came where Jesus was, she saw Him, and fell at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."*

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v.33 *When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled,*

“troubled” agitated, moved like boiling water
“Jews” friends or professional mourners

v.34 *and said, "Where have you laid him?" They *said to Him, "Lord, come and see."*

v.35 *Jesus wept.*

Some say He wept out of sympathy for Martha and Mary but I disagree because previously, he was agitated by everybody.

I think His sorrow was at the fact of death.

Death separates. It breeds grief. It puts on the mask of hopelessness. Jesus came to conquer death.

II Tim 1:10 *our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,*
(Jn 3:16)

Then;

Some in the crowd exclaimed how Jesus loved Lazarus
Others questioned why He let him die.

v.38 *So Jesus, again being deeply moved within, *came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.*

“deeply moved” let out a large sigh
(still troubled)

Jesus said to remove the stone from the tomb but Martha said, O no, it’s going to smell really bad.

But Jesus had to remind her;

v.40 *Jesus *said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"*

v.41 *so they removed the stone to the entrance and Jesus prayed; Father, I thank You that You have heard Me.*

v.42 *"I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me."*

v.43 *When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth."*

Ha!

Lazarus, who was dead, heard the voice of Jesus.

How can that be? Because his spirit was still alive!

Jesus said in;

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v.25 *I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies,*

v.44 *The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus *said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."*

God was glorified in the miracle that Jesus performed by raising Lazarus.

Remember,

Jesus said He did this, not to bring Lazarus back but so people would believe in him.

So,

Let's close by seeing how we can give glory to God.

1. Let your light shine:

Mt 5:16 *Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*

2. In the simple things:

I Cor 10:31 *Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*

3. Be a disciple of Christ:

Jn 15:8 *My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.*

4. You were made for Him:

Col 1:16 *For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.*

5. He bought you:

I Cor 6:20 *For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.*

There it is. You were made for the glory of God.