

The 11st chapter of John. In the 11th chapter of John, we have what most people would say was the greatest miracle that Jesus Christ ever performed. And that is ~~th~~ what is generally called 'the resurrection of the body of Lazarus from the grave'. And yet, in a real sense, Lazarus was not ~~raised~~ resurrected. He was raised up and given life but, technically and doctrinally and ~~tj~~theologically speaking, he was not resurrected and I will show that to you in just a few moments.

Now last time, we got to the edge of the grave; we were in the cemetery and we had to leave poor Lazarus lying there. So I'm glad that you have come back because we want to get him out of the grave. All right? And one of the members asked me this morning 'had I brought my shovel and a raincoat?' And I said 'what do you mean?' and he said 'we want to get Lazarus out of that grave'.

But you know he illustrated a tremendous truth. They needed a shovel and they needed a raincoat. Because God let them help. This is one of the most amazing things in the story. Jesus alone can give life and yet, He involved people in the resurrection of Lazarus. Just like He involves you and me today. I don't understand this. This is a real mystery - why He would call me to preach. Why He didn't send an angel. But He calls US to do it.

You see, He alone can speak the Word and He, alone, can bring life. But He lets us carry the Word. You see, He, alone, can save but He gives YOU the opportunity of going out this week and bringing in someone who can hear the Word. As a matter of fact, He's not gonna do this. He's not gonna use the telephone; He's not going to visit in any homes; He's not going to do your praying; He's not going to write your checks; He's not gonna do anything you can do. But He's left it to us. He involves us in such a marvelous and wonderful way. It's a

humbling thing. And we see that in the resurrection of Lazarus. Now Jesus has delayed His coming to the cemetery but finally, He comes. It's the fourth day and when we left off, He is in the cemetery and Mary is weeping and we stopped at V. 32 and that's where we're going to pick up this morning.

V. 32(read) every time you see Mary, Mary is at the feet of Jesus. But now we're going to see that Mary's faith is imperfect, in just a few moments. And she's gonna hurt Jesus. Keep this in mind, though: every time we see Mary, she is at the feet of Jesus. That's a wonderful place to be.

She said 'Lord, if Thou hadst been here, my brother would not have died' and this is true. No one ever died in the presence of Jesus. NO ONE. The thieves on the cross died but they did not die until after Jesus had died. Jesus met a funeral procession - and He just touched the casket and the corpse just came right out of the casket. You can't die in the presence of Jesus.

I preached a sermon a couple of years ago 'There is No Death in Jesus'. There IS no death in Jesus. You can't die if you're in Jesus. You can't ultimately die. But she was true - if Jesus had been there - but it never dawned upon Mary that He could raise him from the dead. It didn't seem to dawn upon her. She said 'now, if You'd a been here, he wouldn't have died'.

Well, if He had sort of power, could He not have healed him at a distance? Indeed He could. Since he's dead, can't He raise him from the dead? Indeed, He can. We ought never to limit JC. There's no circumstance that binds Him in any way and we went into that last time.

But V. 33(read) but it doesn't mean 'just crying'. Mary was doing more than crying. The Greek word means 'hopeless wailing'. Now herè's Mary, who was

so close to Jesus and she is hopelessly wailing. Now God expects us to cry. I would urge you to cry, when your loved ones die. That's very natural. There's a difference, though, in crying and hopelessly wailing. She was hopelessly wailing, the Greek says.

These Jews were mourners that had come from Jerusalem to join them in the grief process. He(Jesus) groaned. That's one of the strongest words in the Greek tongue. It has the idea of indignation in it. It was used of the angry snort of a horse. He groaned with indignation and with disfavor. He was deeply displeased with the hopeless wailing of Mary. He groaned in the spirit and He was troubled. Why would He be?

JC WANTS His people to show faith and especially in time of crisis. Nothing dishonors Jesus more than for a person to say 'I'm a Xtn.; I believe in Eternal Life"and yet, when someone dies in the family, to go to pieces and weep and wail like pagans. We have people here in this congregation this morning who have lost loved ones ~~xxxxx~~ so very dear to them within recent months and years, who have stood up so beautifully.

It's been an inspiration to this whole body. But sometimes, you see someone who claims to be a great Xtn and yet the loved one dies and it almost runs them crazy. Something's wrong. Something's wrong with your faith. Weep? Yes. Sorrow? Yes. But not a hopeless weeping or wailing. Now why would it hurt Him so much about Mary? Well, that's the very one it would hurt Him with. If Martha had wailed like this, it wouldn't have hurt Him nearly as bad.

Why? Because Mary is the one who's been at His feet. You see, God's choice people are the people who can hurt Him. It would not have bothered Him - had an unbeliever wailed. He's not concerned because these people WITH Mary are

wailing but He's concerned because Mary has been at His feet. He has taught her the Truths and she's not believed them. Nothing hurts Jesus more than when a choice saint of His fails to rise to the occasion in faith. And that's the reason that He's angry. There's a ~~righteous~~ righteous indignation.

YOU say 'really? At a time of grief?' Exactly. I felt it in my own heart. I've seen the people profess every thing and I've seen them come and go to pieces in time of death and I felt a ~~time~~ righteous indignation in me. I said 'they've missed the Gospel'. Don't ever do it. Weep. But not as those who have no hope. Your pagan neighbors are looking at you. The lost man's looking at you. That you work with. He's seeing if you have enough faith to believe the Gospel you profess.

Don't wail as those who have no hope. Jesus is deeply disturbed.

V.34(read). Course Jesus knew all this. But He wants their response. They are either IN the cemetery or on the edge of the cemetery.

V.35(read) the shortest verse in the Bible but full of meaning. Now when it says Jesus wept (that's not the same word that's used up there with Mary weeping it does not have the idea of hopelessness. It really means He burst out in tears. JC? Yeah. God can cry? Indeed He can. I'm so glad He can. Does God feel? He really does. Does He care when you suffer? He cares so much, He cries. He Cries. I don't understand it. It means everything, though, to me.

The writer of Hebrews says that "we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities (Heb. 4:15) but was in all points, tempted like as we are, yet without sin. He's touched with a feeling of our infirmities, all of our sorrows and all of our weaknesses. Let us, therefore,

come boldly to the throne of grace, that we obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need". No one understands like Jesus. No one weeps with you like Jesus. A preacher preached a sermon on the conditions of the world and describe all the suffering and all the terrible things that's happening in the world.

They went home and the father said to his little daughter 'what did you think of the Sermon today?' and the little daughter said 'you know, if the worlds in this big a mess, I would think that God cried Himself to sleep last night'. He did. No one suffers like Jesus does over the suffering of this world. No one cries like Jesus cries when you're hurt. NO one.

And this is not a put-on. This is not crocodile tears and this is not professional ~~wax~~ mourning. But He burst out with tears. Why? ~~Because~~ God is not simply a spectator to our sorrow but He's participating. He's hurt more than you are, when you lose your husband and you lose your wife and you lose your child. And that's one reason He's crying here. _He's crying because He really is touched and He has that sympathy. NO one has ever understood Jesus who's not drawn to Him and loves Him.

He's the most loveable person in all the world. He's absolutely adequate to ALL of our needs. ALL of our needs. No matter what our hurt is today, JESUS is touched and He cries. But there's more to it than this. He's not crying for Lazarus. And you ought not to cry for your loved ones who die and go to Heaven. Huh Huh, no. Don't cry for them. He knows where Lazarus is. He knows he's a thousand times better off than he ever was in this life.

He's not crying about the welfare of Lazarus and He knows that Lazarus is gonna be raised from the dead in just a few moments. But there is a sorrow in it. He hates to call Lazarus back into this old world. I would certainly be grieved

today if I had to call my daddy back into this old world. I wouldn't want to do my father that disfavor. I just wouldn't want to treat him that way. I would not want to bring him from Heaven back to this world. Jesus doesn't really WANT to do this - humanly speaking.

Course you know no sooner ^{is} ~~than~~ Lazarus out of this grave ^{and} ~~until~~ the enemy pounces on him again and the devil gets after him. Jesus doesn't want to do that. And that's the reason He wept.

V. 36(read) the Jews did not doubt the compassion and feeling of the Lord. They saw those tears.

V. 37(read) now here's unbelief. Here's another crowd - they say 'well, why in the world didn't He raise him from the dead. He opened the eyes of the blind'. That's not ALL He's done. He's raised some dead people. Why didn't they mention that? Evidently, the officials in Jerusalem had played this down and said 'this is a fraud' so long until they had convinced the common man.

So all they knew was that He really had ~~healed~~ some people but they didn't know He'd raised some people. But this is unbelief. Until V.38(read) says Jesus AGAIN groaned. He groans again. He's groaning again because of unbelief but it's much more intense/^{up}there when Mary groaned because it says He was troubled. But He's troubled here but He's troubled MORE about Mary. Because this was un-believers. God's people hurt Him more than anyone.

'He cometh to the grave' it says. 'It was a cave and a stone lay upon it'. And I would judge, from my visit to Lazarus' tomb, that it seemed to be a recess cut in the side of a wall. Was kinda little hill or mountain. And we went down 30 feet and would you believe, I've had these notes for years and I couldn't

find them in my file. I wanted to check the notes I had took and I'm having to go purely from memory. AND my memory tells me that we went 30 feet down. I remember that we had to take candle light. We had to hold a candle to walk down the steps and it was a little grave that was really not large at all. Large enough for a man but probably no more than a - say 6 x 6, as I recall. But it was in the side of that mountain kinda.

And that's what many graves were. They were recesses in the side of rocks and they'd put a big stone in front of them and so he calls it a cave. He calls it a cave and a stone lay upon it. And it was a heavy stone. IT took several men to move it, no doubt.

V. 39(read) isn't this amazing? Jesus could have just removed the stone. Well, He didn't even have to remove it. He could have brought Lazarus right out through the stone. That's the way He came out of the grave. He didn't walk out of the open tomb. He walked through that tomb before it was ever opened, Himself. It was simply opened so that man might look in there, and see.

Here He says 'you take away the stone'. God does not do that which man can do. He lets man have a part in the most marvelous things in the world. He says 'YOU remove the stone. Now you can't raise him from the dead but you can remove the stone'. I can't save anybody in Ft. Smith but I can carry them the Word. See? I can't convert ANYONE but I can bring them to this Bible Study. You can't save ANYONE, but if you will obey the Lord, you'll see that someone IS saved. God will use you in bringing someone into the Kingdom of God and we need to look at it that way.

Everything depends upon our response and our obedience. People who say 'well, I can't do anything' - they've not read their Bibles. We can remove the stone.

Martha completely misunderstands. She thinks Jesus wants to view that body. Adn she thinks, of course, that here is a putrifying corpse. Been dead four days. Well, Jesus is not gonna bring up a putrifying corpse. He's already said 'I am the resurrection and the life'. He's gonna bring forth Life; He's not gonna bring forth a corpse. Martha doesn't understand.

He had been dead for four days. This is very significant. You know the reason he'd been dead four days? Well, the Jews said that for three days, the spirit hovered over a corpse. But after the fourth day, the spirit left. So by Jewish superstition, the spirit~~xxx~~ is gone and this body's dead. If yhe'd a been raised on the third day, the Jews would have said 'well, the spirit was still over him. He was not even dead'. Jesus fit into this superstition of the Jews.

OF course, he's dead. He was dead b~~ef~~ore four days but Jesus has waited until the fourth day to satisfy that Jewish superstition.

V.40(read) And Jesus had been saying this to Martha but Martha still did not believe. She believed only in the future resurrection. She did not believe that Jesus was going to raise Lazarus and bring him back. And, of course, you can imagine what an excruciating thing it would be, if you thought your loved one was gonna be brought out of the grave and in a putrifying condition and the odors and the terrible thing that would be there.

And that's all she can see, you see.

V. 41(read) isn't this amazing? The Father's already heard. The prayer's already been answered and Jesus thanks Him before He even sees Lazarus raised. Is ~~xxxx~~ that Scrip.? It, indeed, is. I bet I'm talking to some people this morn-

ing that have been asking God a long time for some things and you've never thanked Him. Go home and thank Him and come back next Sunday and share with me how you got your answer this week.

Go home and thank God for all that He's hearing you and watch Him answer this week. There's gonna be someone come to me next Sunday with the most miraculous story and say 'I've been praying for years but I didn't thank God'. That experience happened in our own family and we shared it with you. Of how we prayed for several years and then God said 'thank Me'. And we thanked Him and the thing was answered within just a matter of weeks - maybe days.

I was preaching in a church and I threw this out and a lady came to me right in the church and she said 'the prayer was answered right here tonight when I did what you said'. Don't ever pray without thanking the Lord. Jesus says in Mark 11:27 (read) 'What things soever ye desire, when you pray, believe that you've already received them' (that's the way it reads in the original)'and ye have them'. That's real praying.

Is when you believe you've already got them. As far as God's concerned. That's the way Jesus lived. He thanks the Father before He even asks Him to raise him. You say 'well, that's crazy. He ought to have waited until he saw Lazarus out of the grave'. No, no, He didn't do it that way.

V. 42(read) Jesus wanted the people to hear this. He wanted the people to benefit from it. God has done so many things for us that He didn't need to do for Himself at all.

V.43(read) cried - in the Greek, it says 'with a tremendous thunder'. He's just two miles of Jerusalem. I wonder if they could have heard it in the city?

They were really upset in Jerusalem. You see, they had been hearing of the miracles in Galilee and the people in Galilee, you know they hadn't been to college; they didn't know much. Those sophisticated people down in Jerusa-

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ken said 'well, those simple countrymen, they're telling all these stories about resurrection and healings. We'd expect them to believe it.'

The resurrection of Lazarus took place right outside of Jerusalem. Jesus came within the shadow of the Temple to perform his greatest miracle. They could not get around this. He did it right there in the midst of them. The sophisticated folks. But He said 'Lazarus, come forth'.

And you know what that voice is? That's the voice of Jesus that you, one day, will hear. If you're a child of God. I Thess. 4:16(read). and V.17. Jesus has already said this in John's Gospel. We already saw it in John 5:28 (read). Grave- that's the body.

Now notice, He says Lazarus. Why didn't He just say 'Come Forth?' Well, if He'd just said 'come forth' the dead of all the ages - God's people - would have popped up. He just said 'Lazarus'. He didn't want to raise anybody else, at this time. He called his name. You think Lazarus recognized his name? Indeed, he did. And you'll hear your name and I believe the Lord will call my name. I believe my name and He'll call me Bill, when He comes again. You say 'well, how's He gonna call the rest of us?' The Lord can call all of our names, all at once.

That will be one of the sweetest things in the world when we're in the grave, and hear our name. Here you have, of course, a type of the resurrection of the Body at the Rapture of the Church and at the End of the Ages. And yet, here

is a real man that Jesus has already said is not dead. He's already said that in V. 25 and 26 - only dead in his body but not really ultimately dead. Very much alive and so He commands him to come forth.

V. 44(read) Notice he doesn't say 'Lazarus' there - just 'he that was dead'. Why does he say it that way? Because he wants to stress the fact that it was the dead man that came forth. "BOund". HOw was he bound? His eyes were covered. He could not see. His mouth was bandaged; his hands were tied to his side and his feet were fastened. Can you imagine how he looked? Can you imagine? He's been raised from the dead and yet, he's standing there helpless.

What if Jesus hadn't done a thing but just got him out of the grave? He couldn't even have crawled on the ground. That's ALL he could have done - maybe wiggle a little if he'd got down on the ground. He couldn't walk, couldn't even use his hands. Couldn't see, couldn't talk. Couldn't say a word. I want you to keep this in mind because there's a great spiritual lesson here.

God's not through with HIM. He's covered with grave clothes. He's in a predicament. And if people had a had time, they'd a said 'well, poor Lazarus, he's out of the grave but he's not much good to himself or anybody else. Can't even talk; can't even walk; can't even move around but God never leaves a man in a half delivered or saved condition. He gives another command.

'Remove the stone' - they removed it. And Jesus brings him up - that's Life. But then He says 'there's something else you can do. Loose him'. Loose him of what? Of his grave clothes. Take off his graveclothes. Take that napkin from over his eyes and over his mouth and untie his hands and his feet. You can do that. Indeed they could and that's one of the glorious things of being a child of God, is taking off grave clothes of people. We have the privilege all

the time, to take grave clothes off. God's not gonna take them off-Unless the church of JC does it, it won't be done. And we'll tell you what that means in just a few moments.

He said 'loose him of his grave clothes and don't only loose him, but let him go'. What does He mean? Let him go out into a world to witness. Not to sit in his living room. Not just to attend a prayer meeting or enjoy his religion but let him go - let ~~xxx~~ that man go. God's performed a miracle in his life. Let him go that he might tell a world what God's done for him. Well, what a lesson we have here in the Xtn life.

And in God working in the life of His people. And did he go? Indeed, he DID go and it wasn't but just immediately until he was on the list of the men most wanted. The Pharisees put him on the ~~most wanted~~ list of the most wanted men in the land. Ready to kill him. Because he is the evidence of the power of God. Do you realize that in Korea that they call Xtns 'resurrected ones'?

That's what they're called. If you are a Xtn this morning, you are evidence of the power of JC Resurrection. YOur life is an evidence that Jesus died and rose again. There's no life unless Jesus came out of that grave. Our Eternal Life comes through the death, burial and the resurrection of JC. You bare in your very life the evidence that Jesus arose from the dead.

Resurrected one is the best way to describe a real Xtn. Has the Life of God in him. Was dead, has been resurrected from spiritual grave to live unto God. You have that in Lazarus. But I ~~xxx~~ want to come back to this in just a few moments. I had hoped to get in chapter 12. I just want to say, though, that in Ch. 12, they are out to kill Lazarus. It says that in V. 9 & 10. Not only did they set their hearts to kill Jesus, but when Lazarus is raised, they say

'we're gonna kill you, too'. Isn't it amazing that they thought they could kill a man who had been raised?

You say 'well, wasn't Lazarus really resurrected?' No, not in the strict sense of the word. You say 'well, why?' No one was ever resurrected until after Jesus was resurrected. No one could be. Turn in your Bibles to I Co. 15:20 (read) Christ is the firstfruit (or the first one risen from the dead) of them that slept (literally lie in the cemetery). Christ was the FIRST person ever resurrected.

You say 'well, what is the difference in being raised and being resurrected'. Well, here's the difference: Lazarus was raised and he had life in his body. He was the real Lazarus. He was raised, but he died again. The Jews went about to kill him and they may have killed him. We don't know from the Bible but in all probability they did kill him. But when you are RESURRECTED, you are resurrected unable ever to die!

You can't die. The resurrection body is a deathless body. Can't be touched by disease; and atomic bomb could not destroy it; machine gun can't kill it; nothing could ever touch a resurrected body. Jesus was beyond the reach of Satan. Satan never tempted Him after He was resurrected. They didn't try to kill Jesus. Why didn't they try to --- have you ever asked the question 'why didn't they try to murder Jesus after His resurrection?' NEVER!

He was in the world forty days. Why? There's no possibility. Lazarus did not have a fully resurrected body but a raised body. How about the other two people Jesus raised? Were they resurrected? No, they were raised. Jairus' daughter was raised. Died again. The son of the Widow of Nain was raised from the dead but he died again. But the resurrection body cannot die.

Matt. is so precise on this. In Matt.27(if you can turn there just a few moments - I don't do a lot of cross reference because we don't have time. That's a tremendous time consumer thing). Matt. 27: 52 & 53(read) 'graves opened (this was ~~thexxtimexxafxkexxthexrxsxrxrxrxrxrx~~ at the time of the resurrection of Christ) - V.53: 'came out of the graves AFTER His resurrection'. Now here's some people that had real resurrection bodies. And they never died.

The Scrip. does not tell us but in some way, they were assumed into Heaven because they could not die, after the resurrection. A saint of God, who's raised in his body CANNOT die. It is impossible. But Lazarus was raised BEFORE the resurrection and therefore, he was raise but he was not resurrected. And so, there is a difference.

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You say 'well, ~~why~~ was Lazarus during these four days?' Well, his spirit went to Hades. Went to Hades the day he died. His body went to the grave. What happened when Jesus raised that body? That spirit that was in Hades entered in to that body and that's EXACTLY what happens to the saints of God. Where are the saints of God today? In Hades? No. In Paradise. When Jesus arose from the dead, He took Hades out of Hades - or He took it into Paradise with Himself.

And today, when a saint of God ~~EXN~~ dies, He doesn't go to the O.T. shield or Hades; He goes into the immediate presence of Jesus. And there he is. And when Jesus comes again, that spirit, which has been with Him for the ages, will enter that body that's resurrected. But before the resurrection, Lazarus was in, what the Bible calls, Hades.

AND, when he was raised from the dead, that spirit entered in to that body.

You say 'how did that body look?' Well, the Bible doesn't tell us. Why does it not tell us? Because it doesn't want you and I to spend too much time here. But we know this: that he was perfectly recognizable and the impression we get is that he was the REAL Lazarus. But there's was this difference: Jesus didn't only raise him from the dead - He healed him.

He healed him. Isn't that wonderful? He went into that grave a tremendously sick man. But when he came out of that grave, he was WELL. He was well. And I say to people 'there's something greater than healing for the saints - that's resurrection'. Or raising from the dead and when a saint of God dies, you can mark it down, they don't only die, they're everyone healed'. And I've praised God many a time when I saw the saints die who couldn't get well in their bodies.

That God healed them through death. God healed them. But He healed Lazarus completely through death but when he came back, that body was, certainly, a very healthy body, indeed. And they recognized him and were immediately led to believe that it was the body that Lazarus had died in.

Well, the story continues. And what a story it is. And I wanted to get further than I've got today.

But in V. 47, 48, 49, 50 and 51 - one of the most miraculous things that ever was spoken by a lost man.

V.47(read) here's the Jewish Supreme Court. Notice it says the Chief Priests and the Pharisees. The Chief Priests (that was the Sadducee party) and then you've got the Pharisee party. Well, they're arch enemies but here they're together. You see, they get together because they hate Jesus so much until

they forget their differences. They're just kinda like the U.S. and Russia. They forgot their differences to fight Germany. But then after Germany is defeated, then they're warring with each other. So they frame up - the Sadducees or chief priests party and the Pharisees and they say 'what're we going to do? This man doeth many miracles?' You see, it happened right there outside of Jerusalem.

The people in Jerusalem know this. They can't deny it. 'If we let Him alone, ~~KA~~ ALL men will believe'. (V.48 (read). Now they said 'if we dont' do something with this man, we're gonna have a revolution. The people are gonna turn to Him and this country is gonna be in turmoil and the Romans are gonna march in an army in here (notice they say)'they're gonna take away OUR place (that's their position) and OUR nation'.

You see, how they're trying to save their hide? They're not concerned about the people. They're dirty politions of the highest order. We're gonna lost our position and the Romans are gonna take over our nation.

V. 49(read) now here was the High Priest - he spoke up. 'Ye know nothing at all' Literally, ye witless ones, ye lame brains.

V. 50(read)expedient (dont' you realize - translating it into good English) 'that it is better for one man to die for the ~~xxx~~ people than for the whole nation to perish?' (translated into good English). In other words, here's Caiaphas, who's supposed to be the spiritual leader of the land and he says 'listen, why are we debating this matter? We must kill Jesus. It's better that HE would die for the whole nation than ~~that~~ the nation be destroyed.'

'AND the Romans come in here and take us over. We ought not spend any time.

Let's just kill this rascal'. How sad, indeed, and you know what Jesus said? In Luke 16:31(read) when the rich man said 'send Lazarus to give me some water on my parched tongue'. You know what Jesus said? He said 'if they believe not Moses and the prophets,(that is, if they believe not the Word of God) they would not believe a man though He rose from the dead'.

Here's the example. A man has risen from the dead and the High Priest stands up before the High Court of the land and says 'we're gonna get rid of this man and kill Him'. Such unbelief. 'Because(he says) it's better for this man to die than for us to die or for the nation to die'. And you know that this High Priest, though he was an ungodly man, was speaking the Gospel?

That One Man had to die for you and me. One Man had to die for the nation. It says that.

V. 51(read) and He did. And high priest didn't even know what he was saying. Did you know that God can even prophesy through the devil? Ps. 76:10(read) Here's an ungodly high priest who speaks the Gospel of the substitutionary death of JC. He says 'He must die. One Man must die for the nation'. He didn't know what he was saying. It was just political expediency for him. We've got to get rid of this man, because He is causing great problems. But then he went on to say 'One Man ~~xxxxxxx~~ has got to die for the whole nation'.

It's a beautiful description of the cross.

V. 52(read) and 53 - the Pharisees, the Sadducees framed up to put JC to death ~~NTX~~ _____ He raised a man from the dead almost under the shadow of the Temple. You see, if a person wants to disbelieve the Gospel, he can do it. But the evidence is so overwhelming that we'll have no excuse and if a man wants

to disbelieve, he would disbelieve though a man ~~was~~ arose from the dead. If we're not willing to believe the simple message of the Gospel of Christ, we would not believe though we witnessed a great miracle.

And here we see it right here. Here we see it! They're out to kill Jesus. They're determined to destroy the evidence. Like the man who had on his desk these words: 'I've made up my mind - don't confuse me with the facts'. And that's exactly what the Pharisees were saying.

In closing, I just want to share this spiritual application. Beneath John, there's a spiritual lesson. Everything he says. The Bible tells us that there are three classes of men. We see this shown in the life of Lazarus. Bible says:

1. ^{is} FIRST: There/DEAD MEN - or what the Bible calls the Natural Man. This man is described in I Cor. 2. Here is the man without Christ. He is dead. He has no spiritual life in him. He has never repented; he's never received Jesus. Second state of man is:

2. SECOND: Carnal State: he's believed on Christ but he's never let Christ reign in his life. This is what we call the Carnal man or the man who is not really walking in the spirit or the power of God. This is described in I Cor. 3. Babes in Christ. But then there is

3. THIRD: Spiritual Man: the man who didn't only begin with Christ but his spirit-controlled. This is described in many places in Scrip. Gal. 5; Romans 8 and various places.

Now in the case of Lazarus, you have this beautifully described and in a way

that we can understand it. Probably better than any way in Scrip. ¹ For instance, Lazarus, in the grave, was DEAD. He had no life. A man without Christ is dead, just as dead spiritually as Lazarus was in that grave.

What are the characteristics of a dead man? He has no appétite and he has no activity. Lazarus had no appetite in that grave; he couldn't do a thing; he had no activity. A man without Christ has no spiritual attetite; he can't feed upon the things of God; he has no activity for God. Church bores him; things of God bores him; he's DEAD - see?

² But Lazarus was raised and so having been raised, he had life in him. He was standing there... BUT he was bound with grave clothes. He couldn't speak; he couldn't use his hands; he couldn't walk. Here is the type of the CARNAL MAN. Who has life in him but he's bound by grave clothes. What are the grave clothes? The carry-overs from the old life.

Might be our temperament. We've believed on Christ but we're still bound by the grave clothes. And so we can't do anything. We're bound. About the most we would think about doing would be coming to church. But we just can't serve the Lord. We're so bound. We believe on ~~the~~ Christ. We have a life in us. But we're bound by our flesh. We're bound. So, in Lazarus, you see God having the grave clothes removed. And ~~xxxxx~~ loosening him.

And you have the third state of man - that's the SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE. Where a man has come to Christ but not only has he come to Christ, he's gone ON with Christ. ~~xxxx~~ The grave clothes he's taken off. He's been FILLED with the HS. And so, what you have is this: you have a DEAD man to begin with.. are you dead today? Well, I don't say you are but without Jesus you're dead. If you don't know Jesus, you're dead. Now you ~~may be~~ may be physically alive but

spiritually, you're dead. Lazarus was dead. But in the

SECOND place, you have a DEFEATED MAN. Using 'D's' so that you can remember. You see, Lazarus, he came out of that grave, he had life in him, but he was defeated. He was bound. He couldn't do a thing. ~~But~~ Couldn't even walk. Have you come to Christ and yet, you're defeated? But you see, ~~when~~ Lazarus is loosed, he becomes a dangerous man. He becomes so dangerous until they put him on one of the ~~most~~ wanted men list in the world and they say 'we're gonna kill old Lazarus.' Why?

Because he has a testimony to the resurrection life of Jesus in him. This is mans state today. He's DEAD; he's dead. He's dead without Christ. Or WITH Christ, he can be defeated. But the glorious thing is that the Lord wants all of us to be dangerous. And by that, I mean a threat to the devil and to sin and to have a life that's so powerful that we have some enemies because we stand for JC. And we're let loose in the world, by the power of God, to witness

1. Dead
2. Defeated
3. Dangerous

End of Tape