RISE UP, LAZARUS!

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John 11:1-7

A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha.² 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. ³ So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, "Lord, your dear friend is very sick." ⁴ But when Jesus heard about it he said,



John 11:1-7

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





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DESPITE OUR CIRCUMSTANCES, WE CAN TRUST THAT JESUS LOVES US

Vs. 5-6

So although Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, he stayed where he was for the next two days.







DESPITE OUR CIRCUMSTANCES, WE CAN TRUST THAT JESUS LOVES US

"I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing love, I have drawn you to myself." Jeremiah 31:3







V

DESPITE OUR CIRCUMSTANCES, WE CAN TRUST THAT JESUS LOVES US

AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS, WE NEED TO LEARN TO LOOK AT EVERY SITUATION IN OUR LIVES THROUGH THE LENS OF GOD'S LOVE FOR US.







DESPITE OUR CIRCUMSTANCES, WE CAN TRUST THAT JESUS LOVES US

"The love of Jesus does not separate us from the common necessities and infirmities of human life." ~ CH Spurgeon









Vs. 4

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."

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THERE ARE MOMENTS WHEN GOD USES A DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCE IN OUR LIVES TO SHOW HIS POWER AND LOVE TO THE PEOPLE AROUND US.







"We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves." 2 Corinthians 4:7







YOU ARE MOST LIKE THE PERSON GOD IS SHAPING YOU TO BE WHEN OTHERS SEE GOD AT WORK IN YOUR LIFE AND RECOGNIZE THAT IT IS HIM AND NOT YOU.





John 11:11-15

Then he said, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but now I will go and wake him up." ¹² The disciples said, "Lord, if he is sleeping, he will soon get better!" ¹³ They thought Jesus meant Lazarus was simply sleeping, but Jesus meant Lazarus had died. ¹⁴ So he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead.¹⁵ And for your sakes, I'm glad I wasn't there, for now you will really believe. Come, let's go see him."





IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES, WE LEARN TO TRUST GOD MORE

Vs. 15

...for your sakes, I'm glad I wasn't there, for now you will really believe.





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IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES, WE LEARN TO TRUST GOD MORE

GOD ALWAYS USES IMPOSSIBLE SITUATIONS TO STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH IN HIM. THE GREATER THE TRIAL, THE STRONGER OUR DEPENDANCE GROWS.

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IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES, WE LEARN TO TRUST GOD MORE

"When troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow." James 1:2-3

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John 11:20-26

When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask." ²³ Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ "Yes," Martha said, "he will rise when everyone else rises, at the last day."

Y

John 11:20-26

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









NO MATTER HOW HOPELESS THE CIRCUMSTANCE, JESUS BRINGS LIFE

Vs. 25

"I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.









NO MATTER HOW HOPELESS THE CIRCUMSTANCE, JESUS BRINGS LIFE

JESUS HOLDS THE POWER TO BRING LIFE TO EVERY HOPELESS SITUATION. WE CAN TRUST HIM WITH LIFE, BECAUSE HE IS LIFE.







NO MATTER HOW HOPELESS THE CIRCUMSTANCE, JESUS BRINGS LIFE

"Jesus did not claim to have resurrection and life, or understand secrets about resurrection and life. Instead, Jesus dramatically said that He is the Resurrection and the Life. To know Jesus is to know resurrection and life; to have Jesus is to have resurrection and life." ~ David Guzik



Y

John 11:32-36

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." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and saw the other people wailing with her, he was deeply moved, and he was deeply troubled. ³⁴ "Where have you put him?" he asked them. They told him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Then Jesus wept. ³⁶ The people who were standing nearby said, "See how much he loved him!"



IN OUR MOST PAINFUL CIRCUMSTANCE, JESUS FEELS OUR SORROW

Vs. 34-35

When Jesus saw her weeping and saw the other people wailing with her, he was deeply moved... ³⁵ Then Jesus wept.



#REMNANTEAST



IN OUR MOST PAINFUL CIRCUMSTANCE, JESUS FEELS OUR SORROW

- · Jesus was truly human.
- Jesus was not ashamed of His humanity.
- There may be no sin or shame in tears.
- Jesus was acquainted with grief.
- Jesus identified with others in their sorrow.





IN OUR MOST PAINFUL CIRCUMSTANCE, JESUS FEELS OUR SORROW

"This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin." Hebrews 4:15

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IN OUR MOST PAINFUL CIRCUMSTANCE, JESUS FEELS OUR SORROW

THERE IS NO PAIN OR SORROW THAT YOU OR I CAN EXPERIENCE THAT IS BEYOND JESUS' UNDERSTANDING. HE ALWAYS SHARES OUR GRIEF.

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IN OUR MOST PAINFUL CIRCUMSTANCE, JESUS FEELS OUR SORROW

"Does God care if I'm sad? Just look at the tear-streaked face of Jesus as he stands near Lazarus' tomb." ~ Max Lucado





V.

John 11:39-44

"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." ⁴⁰ Jesus responded, "Didn't I tell you that you would see God's glory if you believe?" ⁴¹ So they rolled the stone aside. Then Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, thank you for hearing me.⁴² 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."



John 11:39-44

⁴³ Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ And the dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in graveclothes, his face wrapped in a headcloth. Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him go!"





Vs. 39-40

"Lord, he has been dead for four days. The smell will be terrible." ⁴⁰ Jesus responded, "Didn't I tell you that you would see God's glory if you believe?"



#RISEUPLAZARUS



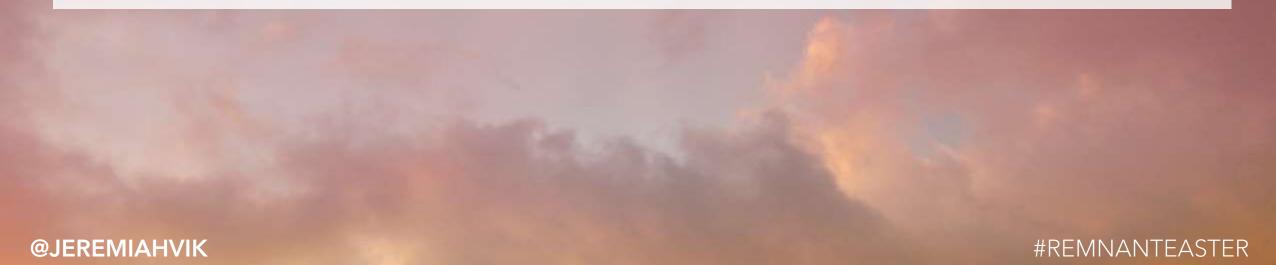
DEATH, SICKNESS, PAIN AND SIN STINK. BUT UNLESS WE LET GOD IN TO DEAL WITH IT, WE'LL NEVER HAVE VICTORY OVER IT.

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Vs. 43-44

Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ And the dead man came out...



#RISEUPLAZARUS



NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE IN YOUR FAITH JOURNEY, JESUS' POWER OVER DEATH AND SIN IS WHAT YOU NEED IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW.

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IN OUR WORST CIRCUMSTANCE, JESUS HAS AUTHORITY OVER THE OUTCOME

"Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing." Romans 4:17





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IN OUR WORST CIRCUMSTANCE, JESUS HAS AUTHORITY OVER THE OUTCOME

"Jesus fought death at Lazarus' tomb, and plundered the grave. Jesus told death that He would soon conquer it completely." ~ David Guzik

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