

# What If Jesus Had Been There?

John 11:21



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**John 11:21**, *“Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died”*

- **Let’s Look at the Story of Lazarus –Mary / Martha from a Different Viewpoint**

- **1<sup>st</sup>- the Place**

- **Bethany = House of Joy  
= House of Pain**

**Its an Intriguing Fact of Life...**

**...the Thing that can be a Source of Joy**

**...can Also be a Source of Pain**



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- **Let’s Look at the Story of Lazarus –Mary / Martha from a Different Viewpoint**

- **He Wants to Perfect You...**

  - ...Not Pamper You**

  - ...And Challenge Your Faith**

- If Jesus Had of Been There...**

  - ...They Would NOT have Discovered**

  - ...Seven Things We Need to Know**



# #1- God Always Hears Our Cries (1-5)

**1-5 (Phillips)** ...Lazarus who became seriously ill. So the sisters sent word to Jesus: "Lord, your friend is ill." When Jesus received the message, he said, "This illness is not meant to end in death; it is going to bring glory to God - for it will show the glory of the Son of God." <sup>5</sup> So when he heard of Lazarus' illness he stayed where he was two days longer

- **Daniel 10:12**, "Don't be afraid, Daniel..the 1st day..began to pray- I heard"
- **Mk 4:38**, "Master carest not that we perish?" **Mk 4:38**

**Whatever He Permits to Enter the Arena of Our Lives...  
...He Has Purpose Wrapped Up In It**

**The Reason We Don't Always...**

- **See**
- **Feel**
- **Experience**

**...Immediate Answers (the Next 6 Things Give Insight)**

## #2- It's Always Too Early to Give Up on God (4)

*“When He heard this, Jesus said, “This sickness is not unto death. NO, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.”*

- **2 Things – God has a Plan and Timing**

*“When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is unto glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified through it.”*

*“And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, nevertheless let us go unto him”*

- **Delays are Not Denials**

*<sup>5</sup> Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and when she heard therefore that he was sick, he **abode** at the place where he was*



# #2- It's Always Too Early to Give Up on God (4)

## So What Does This Mean To You Today?

- Being a Christian Does Not Mean We Will Never Go Thru Storms
- When Sits Enter Your Life Bigger than Your Capacity to Handle...  
...Take It to the Lord in Prayer
- When You Pray, Rem you are Not Sending Breaking News to God...  
...He Knows Everything that Has/ Will Ever Happen to Us
- Whatever He Permits to Enter the Arena of Our Lives...  
...He has Purpose Wrapped Up in It
- His Timing is Not Our Timing
- Never Give Up On God...  
...No Matter How Grim the Circumstances May Seem!

# #3- God Can Resurrect Your Dead Things! (17)

*“ ‘ Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in tomb for 4 days ”*

- **Waits Two More Days / Then Takes Off for Bethany**
- **Arrives After He had Been Dead for 4 Days**
- **By this Point He Was Legally Dead**
- **Jewish Custom -Wait Until the 4th day to Ensure Truly Dead**

**Jesus Arrives After...**

- **Professional Mourners There**
- **Body Prepared For Burial/ Wrapped It In Grave Clothes**
- **Body Had Already Begun to Stink**

**Seemed Hopeless..**

**...But Jesus Was About to Remove All Doubt!**

# #4- Our God is Compassionate/ Cares for Us! (35)

*“Jesus wept”*

- When Jesus Saw Her Weeping
- He Was Deeply Moved in His Spirit
- He Asked Where They Had Laid Him/ Was Taken There
- This is Where **Jesus Wept**

**Our God is Compassionate and Cares About Us:**

- Jesus Cried Like We Cry
- Shed Tears Like We Shed Tears
- Moved Like We Are Moved

**We Do Not Serve A Distant And Despondent God.**

- God that came down/ lived like we live so that He could meet us where we are
- Jesus loved Mary, Martha, and Lazarus / He also loves us
- So Don't Afraid to Take Your Concerns to God



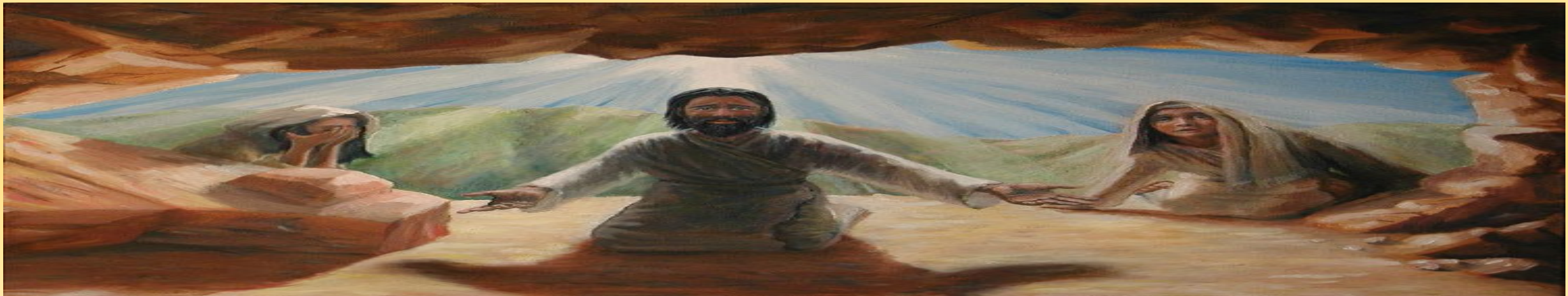
**#3- When Life is Out of Control...**

**...God is Always in Control!**

**(34)**

***“Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary/ had seen what Jesus did, put their faith in Him”***

- **Interest (34) -Where Have You Laid Him**
- **Invitation (39) -Roll Away Stone**
- **Involved-Empower (43) -Lazarus Come Forth!**
- **Invest (44) -Loose Him And Let Him Go**



**#3- When Life is Out of Control...**

**...God is Always in Control!**

**(45)**

**So What Does This Mean to You Today?**

- Sometimes Bad Things Happen to Good People, for the Glory of God**
- When God Brings You Through a Storm, Share Your Testimony, so that God Would Get the Glory**
- Learn from Other People's Experiences so that God Would Not Have to Send You Through All the Experiences Yourself**
- It's Never Too Late for God and it is Not Over Until He Says It's Over**
- God is Always in Control!**
- Delay Does Not Mean Denial!**
- Whatever God Permits to Enter the Arena of Your Life, He Has Purpose Wrapped Up In It!**

# #6- We Have a Part in Our Miracle -Taking Away the Stone! (39)

*“Take away the stone”* He said.

**He was Saying...**

- **You Have a Part**
- **Faith Without Works is Dead -James 2:17**
- **Have to Put Feet On Our Prayers**
- **Remove Our Man-Made Barriers**

**You Do What You Can Do...**

**...God Will Do What You Can't Do**



# #7- God is Able to Do Far Above What... ...You Can Imagine/ Think (43)

*“And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth”*

**John 11:44-45**, *“And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go. <sup>45</sup> Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him”*

**When He Speaks ..**

- **Your Lazarus will Come Forth!**
- **You Will Know God Did It!**
- **Others Will Know God Did It!**



# What Needs to Resurrect in Your Life!

