

I AM The Resurrection

6-30-24

John 11:25–26 (ESV) **OH**

²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I AM (the self-existing God) the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die (shed his body), yet shall he (continue to) live, ²⁶ and (thus) everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.”

Jesus the “I AM” the self-existing one is the resurrection. The one who believes in Christ has eternal life that transcends physical death. Thus, we will never die because we make an instant transition from the old life to the new life.

We will never die! How do we prove this? At a funeral people will say, “They are in a better place.” How do they know? In C.11 Lazarus dies. We know there is life after physical death because Jesus visibly shows us when HE raises Lazarus from the dead. Jesus proves to us that HE is the “Great I AM” the resurrection. Lazarus proves this point.

John 11:14–15 (ESV) **OH**

¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe.”

After Jesus was told that HIS friend Lazarus had died, HE waited two days before going to see Lazarus’ grieving sisters, Mary and Martha. Not only that, Jesus tells HIS disciples that HE was glad HE was not there when Lazarus died. Jesus considered this an opportunity where HE would demonstrate HIS oneness with the Father. This would confirm HIM as the Son of God and also this would further challenge and confirm the faith of Mary, Martha, and HIS disciples.

We see this play out when Martha ran out to see Jesus and said, “If you had been here my brother would not have died.” Then Jesus told her that HE was the Resurrection and asked her if she believed this.

John 11:27 (ESV)

She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

She was affirming Jesus’ central role in bringing about the resurrection on the last day, adding that she believed he was the Christ, the Son of God, the one whom the Father had sent into the world.

Now Martha’s sister Mary runs out to see Jesus. She also says, “If you had been here by brother would not have died.

John 11:33–34 (ESV)

³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴ And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”

When Mary appeared, crushed with sorrow and accompanied by the other grieving mourners, Jesus was moved with deep emotion. HE was impacted by the prevailing mood of sorrow. Lazarus had been a beloved friend, and Jesus shared in the common feeling of grief over his death.

Jesus felt their pain and HE feels our pain and sorrow.

John 11:35 (ESV) OH ***(So important to understand!)***

Jesus wept.

This is the shortest verse in the Bible and reveals Jesus' heart. Overcome by emotion, HE gave way to weeping. One translation reads: "Jesus burst into tears." His grief was real and spontaneous! Jesus hurts when we hurt.

Now Jesus does what only Jesus can do.

John 11:38-44 (NIV)

³⁸Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹"Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days." ⁴⁰Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe (that I AM the Resurrection), you will see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

God spoke and created the world. Likewise, Jesus speaks and raises the dead.

John 11:43-44 (NIV) **OH/a**

⁴³When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

Notice that Jesus called Lazarus by name. If Jesus had not called him by name every dead body in the world would have been raised. Jesus will call us up by name.

Jesus did this to prove the resurrection, so that we know that there is truly a better place. But after Lazarus, there will be another dead man resurrected that will guarantee us a better place and our resurrection. **That man is Jesus.** Jesus is the resurrection. **Don't be like Thomas and doubt.**

John 20:25 (ESV)

²⁵ The other disciples told Thomas, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

Thomas was present when Lazarus was brought to life, but he had to see the resurrected Jesus before he believed.

John 20:27 (ESV)

Then Jesus appears to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve but believe."

Jesus was telling Thomas and us, "There is a better place."

Mankind is lost and doomed to Hell and Jesus weeps.

Therefore, God did something about it.

John 3:16-17 (ESV) **OH***

God so loved the world, that HE gave* For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through HIM.

***Jesus did not come to condemn the world. HE came to save the world! We will go to a better place because Jesus is the resurrection.**