

A Matter of Death and Life

What is your earliest memory about the reality that people on earth die?

Read John 11:1-57.

1. Why did Jesus delay two days before going to Lazarus?
 - A. Jesus was super busy.
 - B. Jesus really didn't think Lazarus would die.
 - C. Delaying would end in God being glorified.
 - D. Delaying would end in Jesus being glorified.
 - E. It would deepen the disciples' belief in Jesus.
 - F. Many from Jerusalem would place their faith in Jesus.
 - G. It resulted in unquestionable death; no coma by the fourth day.
 - H. To build the faith of Mary and Martha.
 - I. Other.

2. Why did the disciples object to returning to Judea?
 - A. They didn't have any friends there.
 - B. Lazarus was sleeping, so there was no need for Jesus to heal him.
 - C. They had left when the Jewish leaders tried to stone Jesus.
 - D. They were practicing their healing gifts on Gentiles.
 - E. The disciples feared for their own lives.
 - F. They felt jealous about all the attention Jesus gave Mary and Martha.
 - G. They preferred the Sea of Galilee.
 - H. It's a very long walk to get back to Judea.
 - I. Other.

3. What does this chapter tell you about the resurrection of the dead?
 - A. Not much.
 - B. Much.
 - C. It's real.
 - D. Jesus is the One who makes it happen.
 - E. You have to die before you get eternal life.
 - F. Resurrection happens at the end of time.
 - G. God gives eternal life to believers the moment they believe.
 - H. Those who believe in Jesus might "sleep" but they won't "die."
 - I. Other.

4. What's the significance of Lazarus' resurrection happening in Bethany?
 - A. The place doesn't matter as much as the resurrection itself.
 - B. Bethany is practically next door to the Jewish capital of Jerusalem.
 - C. It would put Bethany on the map.
 - D. Christ's other resurrections happened way up north in Galilee.
 - E. The Jerusalem leaders wouldn't be able to dispute this miracle.
 - F. It showed that death wouldn't be the end for Jesus.
 - G. Jesus told a parable about a person named Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31).
 - H. Jesus was born in Bethlehem; it sounds sort of like Bethany.
 - I. Other.

5. Why did Jesus weep?
 - A. Sorrow over the death of Lazarus.
 - B. Sadness that nobody believed He could resurrect Lazarus.
 - C. He faced so much constant pressure that this was His breaking point.
 - D. No one knows for sure.
 - E. Mary and Martha lacked the faith to believe in current resurrection.
 - F. His disciples remained clueless, fearful of their own survival.
 - G. He knew some present would be the ones to crucify Him shortly.
 - H. Other.

6. How did the religious leaders respond to the resurrection of Lazarus?
 - A. They put their faith in Jesus.
 - B. They plotted Christ's death.
 - C. This led to their decision to kill Lazarus too (John 12:10).
 - D. Determination to stop the spread of Jesus' influence.
 - E. Fearful they would lose what they thought they had at the time.
 - F. They offered to wash the feet of Jesus.
 - G. The Holy Spirit moved on them to prophesy.
 - H. Other.

7. What is the likelihood you will someday experience death as "sleep"? What about experiencing death as "death"? What's the difference?

8. How much "life" do you have? Do you have "eternal life"? How would you know?