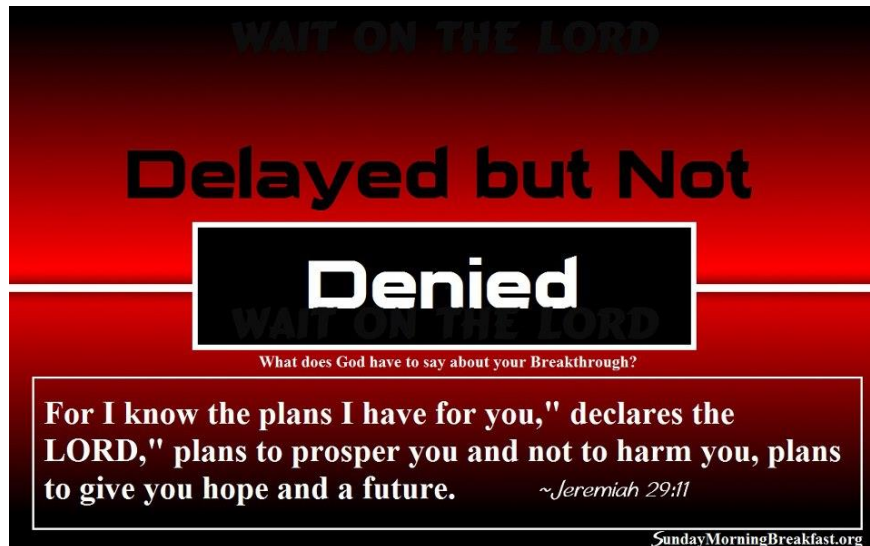


Kingdom Empowerment Ministries

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Delayed but not Denied: Hope Beyond My Circumstance -Part 3



St. John 11: 1-45 (KJV) ¹Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.²(It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)³Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.⁴When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.⁵Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.⁶When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.⁷Then after that saith he to his disciples, Let us go into Judaea again.⁸His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?⁹Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world.¹⁰But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.¹¹These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.¹²Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well.¹³Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep.¹⁴Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.¹⁵And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may

believe; nevertheless let us go unto him.¹⁶ Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellowdisciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him.¹⁷ Then when Jesus came, he found that he had lain in the grave four days already.¹⁸ Now Bethany was nigh unto Jerusalem, about fifteen furlongs off:¹⁹ And many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.²⁰ Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house.²¹ Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.²² But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.²³ Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.²⁴ Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.²⁵ Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:²⁶ And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?²⁷ She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.²⁸ And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, The Master is come, and calleth for thee.²⁹ As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly, and came unto him.³⁰ Now Jesus was not yet come into the town, but was in that place where Martha met him.³¹ The Jews then which were with her in the house, and comforted her, when they saw Mary, that she rose up hastily and went out, followed her, saying, She goeth unto the grave to weep there.³² Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.³³ When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled.³⁴ And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see.³⁵ Jesus wept.³⁶ Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him!³⁷ And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?³⁸ Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.³⁹ Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days.⁴⁰ Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?⁴¹ Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.⁴² And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.⁴³ And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.⁴⁴ 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.⁴⁵ Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him.

Delayed But Not Denied

- **The longer the delay the greater the blessing that will be produced.**
- **God's timing overrules our feelings.**
- **We will discover through this lesson the following:**
 1. The Savior's Compassion
 2. The Savior's Command
 3. The Savior's Conquest
- **Lazarus name means G-d helps. Lazarus was from a city of Bethany. Bethany means house of affliction.** If you put both of those names together it means G-d helps those who suffers from affliction.
 - **Names have meaning:** Try naming your child something with a meaning.
- **John 11: 2** *(It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)*³
 - **Why did John point out that is was "that Mary"?**
 - There were a lot of Mary's but this particular Mary was the one that anointed the Lord's feet with ointment and whipped his feet with his tears and her hairs. Mary gave G-d her glory by using her hair. And this is what G-d is looking for. He is looking for women that will give G-d their glory. No matter what is going on, give G-d the glory.
- **Jesus can love you and still not show up when we think He ought to.** This is where the problem comes in with people, when He doesn't move when we think He should.
- **The wait is worth the wait.**

G-d will come right on time and when he shows up he won't come by himself. He will bring forth a blessing. He will come through for you. When he shows up he can bring a dead situation back to life.



God has perfect timing; never early, never late. It takes a little **patience** and it takes a lot of **faith**.
But it's worth the wait.

- **You may looked over and pushed over but you need to wait on the Lord.** They that wait on the Lord, he shall renew thou strength.
- **Who do you talk to when things (relationship, finances, circumstances. etc.) in your life die?** Learn to talk to G-d.
- **Has G-d ever waited until everything you could do was dead?** Well, that is a good sign. G-d will show up when YOU can't do anymore.

John 11:3³Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.

- **Intercessory Prayer was shown in verse 3 when the sisters sent for Jesus.**

John 11:4⁴When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God. that the Son of God might be glorified thereby

- **This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of G-d.**
- **The longer the delay the more glory He will get.** Can you trust G-d with your life to bring glory unto him?

John 11:8-11⁸His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?⁹Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world.¹⁰But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.¹¹These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep

- **It's too dangerous:** The disciples were reminding G-d that the Jews wanted to stone him therefore making it dangerous to go to Lazarus. Jesus told the disciples that He knew his assignment and he knew what he was doing.



- **Mind how you treat G-d because you will need him one day.**

- **Did G-d contradict himself?** Vs 4: Jesus says that Lazarus sickness would not be unto death but in vs 14 He says that Lazarus is dead. Did G-d contradict himself? Not at all.

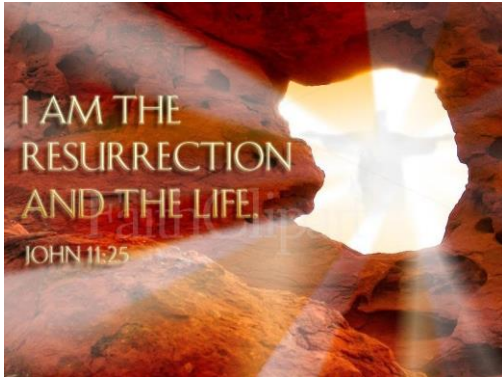
- *John 11:15And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him.¹⁶*

- **Your trial is not just for you but for someone else.** Lazarus was Jesus' friend but He couldn't go to his rescue when He wanted to. He had to wait on G-d's timing. G-d had to get the glory from this miracle.

John 11: 17 *Then when Jesus came, he found that he had lain in the grave four days already.*

- **4 days:** When Jesus finally got to Lazarus he found that he had been laid in the grave for 4 days. Why are these 4 days significant to this miracle?

- Hebrews believe that the soul hangs (lingers) around the body for 3 days after



the person has died. Jesus purposely waited for 4 days so that there would be no questions as to his resurrecting power. The Hebrews wouldn't be able to question him because according to their belief the soul would be long gone. They couldn't say that G-d resuscitated the body because there was nothing left to resuscitate. He didn't come to resuscitate. He came to resurrect. He waited until Lazarus was stinking.

John 11: 19 *And many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.*

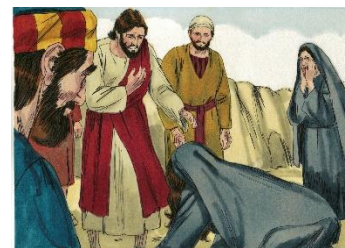
- **The Jews would hire mourners.** It was thought that the louder someone would mourn the better it was. They wanted an open display of grief.

John 11:20-27 ²⁰Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house.²¹Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.²²But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.²³Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.²⁴Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.²⁵Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection**, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:²⁶And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. *Believest thou this?*²⁷She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.²⁸And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, The Master is come, and calleth for thee.²⁹As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly, and came unto him.³⁰Now Jesus was not yet come into the town, but was in that place where Martha met him.³¹The Jews then which were with her in the house, and comforted her, when they saw Mary, that she rose up hastily and went out, followed her, saying, She goeth unto the grave to weep there.³²Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.³³When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled.³⁴And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see.³⁵Jesus wept.³⁶

- **Martha got the word!** It was whispered that Jesus was on his way. It wasn't announced to the whole crowd that Jesus was coming because of the death threat on His life. When

Mary heard that He was coming she got up to go meet him. When you hear that Jesus is coming to your rescue you must get up to go meet Him. Meet Him in your praise, your worship, your prayer life, and through the word.

- **Jesus gave himself the title of being a resurrector.** He said those words in the midst of death. Lazarus had been dead for 4 days. It looked like death had won the victory. All hope of life was gone from Lazarus's body. He waited until Lazarus had started to decompose and stink before he came to the rescue.
- **Stinking Situation:** G-d will wait until your situation starts to stink to come and resurrect it.
- **Martha was saying that Jesus delayed coming to her.** She said that Jesus waited too long to come and if He had come sooner her brother wouldn't have died. Martha was looking at her circumstance and evaluating it based on facts and not faith.
- **Don't go by the facts go by faith:** Stop listing the facts in your dead situation and start increasing the amount of faith you have. Recall the times that G-d worked out what seemed impossible and know that if He did it before, He will do it again. He is the same G-d back then as He is today and all He has to do is speak a word and your situation will change.
- **Martha had to go to her sister privately and let her know that Jesus was calling for her.** Mary didn't wait for Jesus to get to her she met him in the same place. The master is calling and when He is calling we need to learn to get up and go meet Him in our prayer, praise, and word life.
- **Martha was depending on G-d to save her brother but it didn't happen like she thought.** During our trials we must understand that our thoughts are not His thoughts and neither our ways His ways. We must allow G-d to move according to His will and not how we feel.



- **Separate yourself from people that want to keep you in a dead atmosphere.** Mary had to get up and leave from around the mourners to go meet Jesus. She had to leave that atmosphere of sadness and get to the master.
- **Check your attitude and Smell yourself!** Are you still stinking? Do you still have a stinking disposition and stinking attitude? Check yourself for when the real glory of G-d shows up in the church. When the real glory comes forth stinking leadership, stinking

attitude, and stinking thinking has to go out of the church. The musicians, choirs, ambassadors will get together without stinking.

- **He will call you out!** The problem is that some of those operating in the church haven't been resurrected and are still dead but when Resurrection comes He is going to call you out. Until G-d calls you out you are going to stink.
- **He called Lazarus out.** He didn't go in there and pull him out by the hand he had to call him out. He called him out with His words. He called him out with the same words he used to create the earth. He said, "In the beginning was the word and word was G-d. There was nothing made that wasn't made by G-d.
- **When He calls your name:** When He calls your name He is going to call you out of your dead and stinking situation. Sin stinks but He is calling you out.
- **When trials get hot we start stinking:** When you go through a trial and you are giving Him the glory, He controls the odor. He will give the order and the order will control the odor.



- **Lazarus came out by the power of G-d, by the spoken word.** Jesus yelled for Lazarus to come out. He was yelling at death but he was yelling for all the unbelievers to hear. It was for the benefit for those that didn't believe.

- **The master is calling you by your name and it is time to come out!**

- **When Lazarus came forth the grave clothes and maggots dropped off. When He call you out the**

maggots are going to fall off. Your maggots might have a name but they have been feeding on you for too long and it is time for them to drop off. When they drop off and you come from out of your dead situation the odor has got to die down.

- **The command:** Loose that man and let him go! Death had to loose his control with that command. Jesus came that you might have life and that more abundantly. When you come out of your dead situation, learn to live in the overflow.