

“I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE”

John 11:1–44

Key Verses: 11:25–26, ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life.^[a] Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

1. Who are the key people introduced (1–3), and what is their relationship to Jesus (5)? How does Jesus reframe the news of Lazarus’ illness (4), and what does it mean for God to “glorify his Son” through this situation?
2. Following this, what does Jesus do (6), and how does this delay challenge our understanding of God’s love?
3. When Jesus proposes returning to Judea (7), how do the disciples respond (8), and why? In verses 9–10, what does Jesus mean by “walking in the light of this world” versus “stumbling”?
4. How does Jesus describe Lazarus’ state (11–13), and why does he use the metaphor of “sleep”? What is surprising about his statement (14–15), and what does Thomas’ response (16) reveal about his character?
5. As Jesus arrives in Bethany, what atmosphere does he encounter (17–20)? How do Martha’s words (21–22) express a tension between disappointment and faith?
6. What does Jesus tell her (23), and how does her response (24) reveal her understanding of the resurrection? How does Jesus redefine belief (25–26)? What does this “I am” statement say about his identity, and how can we know him like this?
7. How do Martha’s public words to Jesus (27) contrast with her private message to Mary (28)? When the crowd arrives (29–32), how does Jesus react to the atmosphere of grief (33–35), and what distinguishes his “troubled” spirit from the crowd’s weeping? What does the crowd’s mixed response (36–37) reveal about their understanding?
8. How does the scene at the tomb (38–39) highlight the conflict between pragmatism (the stone, the odor) and Jesus’ call to faith (40)? Why does Jesus pray aloud (41–42), and in light of the power of his word (43–44), what should we learn here?