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A Biographical Study of Lazarus

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Lazarus

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

- I. The sickness of Lazarus (John 11:1-4)
 - A. The concern by his sisters—“Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick” (John 11:3).
 - B. The comment by his Savior—“When 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” (John 11:4).
- II. The sorrow over Lazarus
 - A. Martha’s sorrow—“Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died” (John 11:21).
 - B. Mary’s sorrow—“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” (John 11:32).
 - C. Jesus’ sorrow—“ 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. . . . Jesus wept. . . . Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it” (John 11:33, 35, 38).
- III. The summons to Lazarus—“And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. 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” (John 11:43-44).
- IV. The supper for Lazarus—“Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him” (John 12:1-2).
- V. The subtlety against Lazarus—“But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death; Because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus” (John 12:10-11).

STATISTICS

Sisters: Mary and Martha (John 11:1)

First mention: John 11:1

Final mention: John 12:17

Meaning of his name: “Without help”

Frequency of his name: Referred to 11 times

Biblical books mentioning him: One book (John)

Place of birth: Probably in Bethany

Place of death: First time, Bethany; second time, probably Bethany

Important fact about his life: He was the last of three persons raised from the dead by Jesus during his earthly ministry.