

"JESUS CHRIST - A MAN APPROVED OF GOD (Acts 2:22)" Miracle #32 - "RESURRECTION OF LAZARUS" John 11:1-45

Dear Reader, there are many wonderful lessons from this miracle, and the following are only a few:

1. LAZARUS AND JESUS HAVE THINGS IN COMMON

- a. Both are to be put to death (Matthew 26:59; John 12:10)
- b. Both have face napkins (John 11:44; John 20:7)
- c. Lazarus' resurrection delayed four days, Christ's three days ... signifying actual death.
- d. Both resurrections involved unbelief by onlookers
- e. 'Decomposition' of the body in both cases, could not stop resurrection.
- f. Both resurrections could not convince the ungodly
- g. Both are a picture of the rapture ... Christ calls forth the dead-dead from the grave and the alive-dead in Christ

2. DELAYS ARE NOT DENIALS

Bethany was Christ's home, with his best friends and 'family', but he allowed them to wait. Why? **For a greater blessing**. Many people have a physical handicap ... Fanny Crosby the hymn writer for example ... that others, thousands, may be blessed.

As Christ said "I am glad ... I was not there" (John 11:15) that he could fully show his Almighty power. If Christ had been present after two days, onlookers might have thought Lazarus might not have been 'really really' dead ... and Christ was doing half a miracle on a two day corpse rather than a four day corpse.

3. KNOWLEDGE DOES NOT EQUAL BELIEF

As Mary was the student at Jesus' feet (<u>Luke 10:39</u>), and Martha being in the 'kitchen', it would be expected that Mary's 'Bible classes' with Christ, indeed her knowledge of his ways, would see her with a stronger faith and belief in Christ, than Martha with her unbelief (<u>John 11:21</u>) ... but this was not so even for Mary (<u>John 11: 32</u>).

And so Jesus wept at the **unbelief of both** ... the educated and the non-educated.

There are many Professors and Doctors today, having spent much time gathering knowledge of the Bible, who when put to the test, would also cause Jesus to weep as to their lack of faith (<u>John 11:35</u>).

4. RESURRECTION AND LIFE

Christ's miracle raising Lazarus from the dead, was to show, not only that Lazarus would rise from the dead at the **last** day, as misunderstood by Martha ($\underline{\text{John 11:24}}$), but Christ being in the **present**, indeed, said "**I am** (present tense) the resurrection and the life ($\underline{\text{John 11:25}}$).

5. THE STONE OF UNBELIEF

If Martha had her way, she would not have had the stone moved (<u>John 11:39</u>) because she thought it was too late ... despite what Christ had already told her.

It's as if there is a **stone of unbelief** in most of us ... that **we hope but don't believe** that Christ can do this or that. But nothing is too hard for the Lord ... amen?

6. NAPKIN AROUND FACE

There are two instances of resurrected men in the Bible, buried with napkins around their face ... Lazarus and Christ's garments in the tomb here with Lazarus (<u>John 11:44</u>) and Christ (<u>John 20:7</u>).

Egyptian mummies are wrapped from head to toe with **no** separation at the neck ... for them dead is dead ... and are permanently sealed in death.

But this is not so with Christ, Lazarus and the saints.

Even Jonah only had weeds wrapped around his head (<u>Jonah 2:5</u>). Jonah would be resurrected.

Dear Reader, if you are a Christian, you will have 'two garments' as well to signify that you will be resurrected as well.

7. VARIOUS STAGES OF DECOMPOSITION

Of the various miracles of Christ raising people from the dead, they have all been at various stages of **decomposition** ... Jairus' daughter (<u>Mark 5:22</u>); the widow's son (<u>Luke 7:12</u>) ... but this has not hindered Christ in any way.

To Christ, all are just dead. Of course, the dead in Christ (<u>1 Thessalonians 4:16</u>) will rise having been thousands of years rotting in the grave.

8. MIRACLES DO NOT CONVINCE THE UNGODLY

The priests had no excuse for their murderous purposes.

Furthermore, they could not argue against the miracle, but instead of leading them to believe in the Lord, it only hardened their hearts.

As with the rich man in hell, there was also a beggar called Lazarus (<u>Luke 16:20</u>). The rich man asked Abraham to let Lazarus go to his five brothers, but Abraham said that would not convince them (<u>Luke 16:31</u>).

As with the beggar Lazarus, so it was with this Lazarus, that his resurrection did **not** convince the hardhearted.

9. GRAVECLOTHES AROUND THEIR FACE

Many still have graveclothes around their face and mouths (<u>John 11:44</u>) even though they have been saved. Why? They have never openly prayed at a prayer meeting, spoken to anyone about Christ or prayed with others.

10. THE SHROUD OF TURIN

This has been proven to be a fake ... being **one** piece of cloth. As we have seen there were two pieces of garments both for Lazarus and Christ ... one for the body and one for the face (<u>John 11:44</u>; <u>John 20:7</u>). Unlike a 'one piece' there were two pieces signifying a resurrection to come.

11. JESUS AND LAZARUS TO BE PUT TO DEATH

Both Lazarus and Christ were targets to be put to death ($\underline{\text{Matthew 26:59}}$; $\underline{\text{John 12:10}}$) ... $_3$ but they could not be silenced.

It's 'funny' Dear Reader, that the world thinks it can silence the truth ... and teach little kids about non-binary people, transgenderism and so on, by passing laws and putting people in jail and so on.

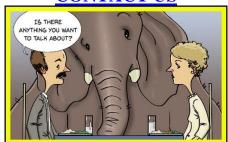
Might will never be right **until** Jesus arrives at Armageddon (Revelation 19) ... when his might will be right.

12. A PICTURE OF THE RAPTURE

Just as Christ calls out Lazarus out of the grave, so Christ at the rapture (<u>1 Thessalonians</u> <u>4:16</u>) will be calling dead Christians out of their graves ... as well as the alive dead in Christ.

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