

*The Raising of Lazarus: John 11:38–57*

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**INTRODUCTION**

**REVIEW:**

**NEW EXPOSITION:**

Jesus commanded that the stone be rolled away, but Martha said that there would be a stench, because Lazarus had been buried for four days (11:38–39)

Jesus reminded Martha that He had said that she would see the glory of God, if she believed His promise to raise Lazarus (11:40)

Note the promise implicit in 11:4

They removed the stone & Jesus thanked the Father that He always heard Him, especially, that He might persuade those around Him that the Father had sent Jesus [as Messiah] (11:41–42)

Jesus cried out loudly, Lazarus, come forth, which He did while being bound from head to foot with gravecloths, so Jesus commanded that they free him (11:43–44)

**Many Judeans believed in Him, but some Judeans reported to the Pharisees (11:45–46)**

**Pharisees & Sadducees convened the Sanhedrin to determine how to stop Jesus, because they feared that His many signs would cause multitudes to believe in Him, which would prompt the Romans to take away their position and the nation (11:47–48)**

**Caiaphas, the High Priest, ridiculed the rest of the Sanhedrin for not figuring out that it would benefit them for one man (Jesus) to die for all the people, rather than allowing the people to die by leaving Jesus alive (11:49–50)**

Some criticize John's statement that Caiaphas was high priest *that year*. They surmise that John thought that high priests served one-year terms (The year A.D. 33 was Caiaphas 18<sup>th</sup> year as high priest. He served for three more years—until A.D. 36.)

Who was president the year the Berlin Wall fell? *George H. Bush was president that year*. Note, the answer does not imply belief that George Herbert Bush was president for only one year.

**Caiaphas (unintentionally) spoke a prophecy about Jesus dying that He might give life to Jewish believers (both in Israel & in dispersion) and gather them into one flock (11:51–52)**

The unintentional prophecy by the high priest

Sequence of events involved in giving life to God's scattered children and uniting them

**The Sanhedrin plotted from that day how to kill Jesus, so He went to the town of Ephraim and spent time with His disciples (11:53–54)**

**Many pilgrims went to the Temple (a week before Passover) for purification & many surmised that Jesus might not come to the feast, because the word spread (throughout Israel as the pilgrims returned home) that the Sanhedrin ordered divulging Jesus' whereabouts (11:55–57)**

**CONCLUSION**

## REVIEW:

J-Baptist testified of Christ, so all might believe; the few of His own who believed would all be God's children 1:1-18
<b>1st Disciples</b> 1:19-51: John the Baptist pointed all to Christ, so some of John's disciples followed & believed <b>1st Sign Apostle John Witnessed</b> 2:1-11: JC turned H <sub>2</sub> O to wine (first Galilean sign), disciples believed <b>Judean Passover</b> 2:13-3:36: Signs lead many (inc. Nic.) to believe in JC; said cross/resurrection = sign that He = Christ <b>Samaritess</b> 4:1-26: He offered Samaritess living H <sub>2</sub> O, who asked if He were the Christ when He told her about herself <b>Ministry in Sychar</b> 4:27-42: She drew men to see JC & food-distracted 12 join in reaping harvest; many believed <b>In Galilee</b> 4:43-45: He went to Galilee, because no prophet is hometown celebrity; they welcome Him after seeing signs <b>Heal Official's Son</b> 4:46-54: Official urged JC to heal son; He (& servants) said, "Son lives;" He & house believed
<b>Heal Lame Man</b> 5:1-15: On Sabbath JC told lame man to walk. Officials scolded & sought to confront healer <b>Heal Lame Man</b> 5:16-23: Judeans seek to kill JC as blaspheming sabbath-breaker, He imitates Father to do greater works. <b>Honor Father by Honoring Son</b> 5:24-30: Wants foes to live (if believing); will be condemned (if disbelieve) <b>2+ Witnesses</b> 5:31-47: JC, impartial GWT Judge, isn't accuser nor is J-Baptist, so works, Father, Bible & Moses accuse <b>Bread of Life</b> JC asked where to buy food for crowd; prayed & broke bread; they were satisfied & called Him <i>Prophet</i> <b>Walking on H<sub>2</sub>O</b> 6:15-21: JC went up mount; 12 left by boat w/o Him; gale arose, JC walked on sea & entered boat <b>JC = Bread of Life</b> 6:22-40: He told men (who found Him) to labor for food for EL & said God persuades that He is Father-sent heavenly bread, that gives the world life & secures bels forever (because He obeys the Father) <b>Grumbling over Bread of Life</b> 6:41-59: JC said to stop grumbling, because, Living Bread gives life for world, but only gives EL to those drawn thru teaching, but they argued over what eating His flesh meant, so He said that (only if they eat/drink His flesh/blood) would they have EL & Christ would indwell, so life-giving Bread differs from lifeless manna <b>Grumbling over Bread of Life</b> 6:60-71: JC asked offended disciples how ascension would affect them & warned of lifeless leaders' words, but HS gives life thru word; & said some don't believe, which is why (apart from being granted thru the Father teaching) people can't believe JC; as many left, He asked 12 if they want to go, but Peter said JC has words of EL (that they believe) & JC said He chose them, even Judas <b>Surprise Appearance at Booths</b> 7:1-36: Unbel brothers say to make show in Judea to get disciples, but His time not yet come. Some said He would skip feast, but His authoritative teaching glorifying Father amazed them (reaffirming right to heal on Sabbath)—some said no arrest because they knew He is Christ, & leaders tried an arrest <b>He Who Tabernacled w/ Us at Booths</b> 7:37-8:1: JC urged to drink of (believe) Him, so they (when HS came) would have living H <sub>2</sub> O abundantly (fulfilling Booths): Division resulted; Nic' scolds rulers for bypassing legal inquiry <b>Light of World Gives Adulteress Justice</b> 8:2-13: Pharisees ask JC if (per Law) should stone adulteress they brought, to accuse Him; JC wrote on floor; said sinless one "Cast 1st stone;" accusers left; He taught crowd [& woman] that He is Light of world (unlike Pharisees), so His followers walk in Light of life
<b>Truth Will Free You</b> 8:14-32: JC's testimony is valid, because Father = 2nd witness; Pharisees don't know Father & try to arrest Him; He will go where they can't & they will die (w/o EL); JC says they will die if don't believe; so they demand to know who He is; He affirms that He always said Father sent Him; but lifting Him (on cross) will show that Father sent Him & abides w/ Him; & many Judeans believed, so He said to abide to be disciples--free from [legalistic] bondage
<b>Abraham's Seed &amp; Satan's Seed</b> 8:33-59: [Pharisees] retort that they aren't slaves, but JC said only He can free from sin; their desire to kill Him came from their father; they would love & believe Him if they were God's children, but they reject Him w/o disproving Him; they scoff when He said bels won't see death & Abe rejoiced to see His day
<b>Healing Man Born Blind</b> 9:1-41: JC saw one born-blind & said sin didn't blind him, but blindness let God heal him (Light of world must do Sender's work now), He made clay & said to wash in Siloam & he then saw; some said he was blind, some dubious, but said, yes & how he sees, but didn't know where JC was; went to synagogue on Sabbath & told Pharisees how he sees; some said Sabbath breaker not of God, & others deny sinner could do this, man said He = Prophet; when parents testify that he, their son, was born blind, Phars knew he was blind; parents (fearing banning) said ask of-age son; they oathed him & he didn't counter as they call JC <i>sinner</i> ; but said he now sees; they repeated query, he said they ignored him & didn't want to be His disciples; they claimed to be Moses' disciples; he said they don't know origin of JC, the only healer of born-blind, but God doesn't use sinners, so He is from God; they called him born in sin & banned him; JC heard this & asked if he believes in God's Son; after saying He = God's Son, he believed & worshipped; He said He came so blind may see, sighted may be blind; Pharisees scoff at being blind; he called them culpable because they call selves sighted
<b>Good Shepherd</b> 10:1-21: Leaders misunderstand Good Shepherd, whom gateman lets into pen (vs. sneaky rustlers); sheep follow Him, not coercive strangers; so He retold it: He is entryway; earlier shepherds bully, steal & kill sheep, but He even dies for sheep (vs. hirelings who let wolves steal/scatter); He knows sheep/they know Him, as He knows God who knows Him—He dies for sheep & has other (non-Judean) sheep who hear Him who makes 1-flock/1-shepherd; God loves Him, because (for sheep) He dies to be raised (no one takes His life), but He lays it down to take it up—as God commands; some called Him crazy demoniac; others denied His speech was demoniac & demon can't make blind see
<b>At Hannukah</b> 10:22-39: Judeans demand to know if He is the Christ, but He said they disbelieve His words, but works in Father's name also testify; they disbelieve because not of His sheep (who follow); He (Messianic Good Shepherd who dies for sheep) guarantees sheep (bels) eternal life & can't lose it, because mighty Father & Son (in union) secure them; He asked (as they tried stoning) which good work led to seeking His death; said they sought His death for blasphemously making self God; He said God (Psalm 82:6) calls (wicked judges) gods; Bible is always true; so Father-sent One doesn't blaspheme in calling self God's Son; if He didn't do Father's works, they should disbelieve, but Father's works lead to believing His words (2nd witness) that Father & Son are united; they again sought His death, but He escaped
<b>Lazarus' death</b> 10:40-11:16: In Batanea rec'd word that Lazarus was sick & said the sickness is not unto death, but will glorify God; when (2 days later) He planned to go to Lazarus, 12 said Judeans sought His death; He said it is still day (time for Him to live) & He needed to wake Lazarus (from death) & it is good He was not there, so they would believe
<b>Resurrection &amp; Life</b> 11:17-37: JC came 4 days after Lazarus' burial & many Judean mourners were present; Martha hurried to greet Him; Mary stayed at home; Martha said JC would have prevented Lazarus' death, if He were there & that God answers His prayers; He said Lazarus will rise again; Martha agreed; He affirmed that He is the resurrector & grantor of everlasting life & asked if she believed; she affirmed that she did, because she believed that He is the Christ, God's Son, whom [God sent] to earth; she said that Jesus wanted to see her, Mary went quickly to where Martha met Him; some said she went to the tomb & came after her; Mary worshipped Jesus & asserted that He would have prevented Lazarus' death, if He were there; the crying of Mary (& those w/ her) moved Jesus w/ empathy, so He asked where they put Lazarus; they said <i>Come &amp; see</i> ; JC also wept, so some said He greatly loved Lazarus; others asked why He let Lazarus die (since He healed a blind man)