

“LESSONS FROM LAZARUS’S RAISING”

JOHN 11

Every miracle performed by the Lord, had a spiritual lesson associated with it. In addition, there are additional lessons that issue from this dramatic account of the raising of Lazarus:

1. A Lesson with the Town (vv. 1-2)

It was not a town that Mary, Martha and Lazarus owned but a place where the Lord was warmly received – in their home. Capernaum was a town in which the Lord did only a few miracles because the townspeople did not believe, one of two times that the Lord marveled, because of the unbelief of the people. (Mark 6:6)

2. A Lesson through the Tears and Trials (vv. 3-6)

Sickness and trials are not necessarily the indication of sin. His delays are not always His denials but an opportunity for Him to demonstrate His power through a difficulty. (1 Chron. 16:9 A; Dan. 11:32; Rom. 8:38-39; Song 2:4)

3. A Lesson in the Travels (vv. 7-16)

“We are indestructible until our life work is done”. If we are walking in obedience to the Lord, we have the assurance that He is watching over us and guiding our steps. (Prov. 3:5-6; Isa. 30:21)

4. A Lesson at the Tomb (vv. 17-44)

The spiritual lesson is that Christ can impart new life to anyone regardless of age. He raised three different people at various ages – 1) Jairus’ daughter (who had died only hours before, (Mark 5:22ff; Luke 8:21ff 2) a son of a widow of Nain (Luke 7:11) and Lazarus. Their raising from the dead pictures how Christ can impart new life to those at various ages. (Rom 6:5) Also, there is **a lesson in evangelism** – “Take away the stone, v. 39. We can help the matter by working to remove the obstacles that block the receiving of new life (e.g. Mark 2 – the paralytic’s friends). Also, there is a **lesson in discipleship** – helping a new believer who has been raised to new

life to be free of the “grave clothes” of the old life that bind and restrict. (James 1:21)

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