

Questions on John chapter 11

1. Where was the town of Bethany? Verse 1.
2. When did Mary anoint the head of Jesus? Why mention this out of its historical sequence? Verse 2.
3. What does the fact that a messenger was sent to Jesus indicate about the nature of the illness? What does the statement that Jesus loved Lazarus tell us about Jesus' human nature? Verse 3.
4. What two things did Jesus have in mind by waiting until Lazarus was dead before answering the sisters' message? Verse 4. (See verse 15)
5. Why did Jesus stay two days where he was after he received the message? Verses 5-6.
6. Why did Jesus propose returning to Judea instead of Bethany where he had friends? Verse 7.

7. What was the attitude of the disciples concerning Jesus' plan to return? Verse 8.

8. In this parabolic statement, what does "the day" represent and what does "the night" represent and what is the meaning of "stumbling not"? Verses 9-10.

9. When Jesus said Lazarus "sleepeth," did he mean the soul is unconscious after death? If not, why not? Verse 11.

10. In what way did Jesus' statement in verse 4 cause the disciples to misunderstand his metaphor of Lazarus sleeping? Verse 12.

11. Why do you think Jesus dropped the metaphor of sleep and told the disciples plainly that Lazarus was dead? Verses 13-14.

12. What do you think would have happened if Jesus had returned to Bethany before Lazarus died, and what was the ultimate purpose of the raising of Lazarus? Verse 15.

13. Was it bravery, cowardice, or pessimism behind the statement of Thomas? Verse 16.

14. Why did Jesus purposely delay until decomposition of the body had begun? Verse 17.

15. What may we infer about many of “the Jews” being there? Verses 18-19.

16. How would you describe the traits of character as shown in the conduct of Martha and Mary from this scene and the one in Luke 10:38-39? Verse 20.

17. What is Martha’s attitude toward Jesus? Is it anger, resentment, or regret? Verse 21.

18. Apparently, Martha had faith in God, but do you think at this point she recognized the deity of Jesus? Verse 22.

19. Why does Jesus make such an obscure statement concerning Lazarus? Verse 23.

20. Did most of the Jews believe in a resurrection of the dead? Can you think of a scripture from the Old Testament that teaches the resurrection? Verse 24.

21. To what conclusion is Jesus leading Martha step by step? Verse 25.

22. How did Jesus finally test Martha's comprehension of his remarks? Verse 26.

23. What was Martha's confession, in answer to Jesus' question, and what is the significance of the last phrase of it? Verse 27.

24. What is the meaning of the word “Master,” as used here, and how is that an appropriate title for Jesus? Verse 28.

25. What was Mary’s response when told that “the Master is come, and calleth for thee? Verse 29.

26. Why did Jesus call Mary out to meet Him? Verse 30.

27. Why did the Jews follow Mary and frustrate Martha’s plans to keep it secret? Verse 31.

28. What would indicate that Mary was hurt because Jesus had not arrived sooner? Verse 32.

29. What is the significance of the fact that Jesus “groaned in the spirit, and was troubled”? And what caused him to groan and be troubled? Verse 33.

30. Why did Jesus ask where they had laid Lazarus? Verse 34.

31. Why did Jesus weep or shed tears? Didn't he know he soon would raise Lazarus from the dead? Verse 35.

32. Although the Jews acknowledged that Jesus loved Lazarus, do you think they are critical of Jesus also and if so, why? Verses 36-37.

33. What comprised Lazarus' tomb? Verse 38.

34. Why didn't Jesus miraculously remove the stone? Do you think Martha had any expectation that Jesus would raise Lazarus? Verse 39.

35. How does Jesus reassure Martha and remove her objections? Verse 40.

36. Why did Jesus pray at this time? What other observations may we make about prayer from this example? Verses 41-42.

37. Why call with a loud voice and why call Lazarus by name? Verse 43.

38. Was it part of the miracle that Lazarus came forth bound hand and foot? Verse 44.

39. Do you think the Jews who went to the Pharisees and told what Jesus did were well-intentioned? Verses 45-46.

40. What caused the excited concern of the council? Verses 47-48.

41. Was Caiaphas the high priest only that year? Verse 49.

42. What were Caiaphas' two alternatives for the problem the council faced? Verse 50.

43. Do you think Caiaphas was divinely influenced in his prophecy? Verse 51.

44. What was the meaning of the second part of the prophecy of Caiaphas that he was influenced to make? Verse 52.

45. What decision did the council make? Verse 53.

46. Why did Jesus retire to Ephraim? Verse 54.

47. Why did many of the country where Jesus was go up to Jerusalem to purify themselves? Verse 55.

48. What was the cause of the excitement that prevailed before the Passover of the Jews? Verse 56.

49. Why do you think the people had doubts that Jesus would attend the Passover (as suggested in the previous verse)? Verse 57.

50. What did His death accomplish for the nation and those scattered abroad?