



LORD, I NEED A MIRACLE WHEN THERE'S NO MORE LIFE!

Lesson 7 • John 11

BACKGROUND TO THE SEVENTH SIGN – JOHN 1–10

➤ **When?** After 6 signs that are meant to enable us to do 2 things:

1) **SEE** and savor Jesus for who He really is—the glorious Son of God, our Sovereign Savior!

John 1:14; 2:11; 9:1-3; 11:4, 40; 17:1-2, 24

2) **TRUST** and treasure Him with a saving faith that obediently follows Him!

John 20:30-31; 1:12-13; 2:11; 11:40

"BELIEVE IN MIRACLES BUT TRUST IN JESUS!"

During a time of great rejection and opposition! John 9:41; 10:19-33, 37-42

➤ **Where?** Jesus is on the other side of the Jordan where John first baptized (10:40-42), but Lazarus and His sisters are at their home in Bethany—Jesus favorite place on earth (11:1)!

➤ **Who?** 1) The **SOVEREIGN SAVIOR**

Jesus—the I AM God—who is the resurrection and the life! (11:25-26)

2) Some who have **SAVING** Faith

Three Disciples who follow Him and truly love Him and are loved by Him but still have much to learn about WHO JESUS really is and HOW saving faith trusts even when the Lord's coming is delayed and death comes to us or our loved ones! (11:1-6)

The Twelve Disciples who follow Him and truly believe but still have much to learn about WHO JESUS really is and HOW saving faith trusts even when following the Lord means facing certain death! (11:7-16)

3) Some who have only **SIGN** Faith

Jewish people who, after seeing Jesus give sight to the blind and even raise Lazarus from the dead, never go beyond just sign faith. But others see the sign and actually place saving faith in the Sovereign Savior! (11:17-19, 30-37, 45-46)

4) Some who have **NO** Faith

The Jewish leaders who are determined to kill Jesus for claiming to be God, even though they know He is doing the signs/works that only God can do! (11:47-57)

➤ **What's the point?** "Jesus said to her, 'I AM the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?'" (11:25-26)

WE NEED A MIRACLE WHEN THE LORD DELAYS HIS COMING AND THE RESULT IS DEATH, DOUBT, AND DESPAIR!

1. THE SIGN PERFORMED: JESUS IS THE I AM GOD WHO RAISES THE DEAD BACK TO LIFE!

THE I AM GOD GIVES LIFE TO THE DEAD AND THE LIVING!

1. The **Desires** of Three Beloved Disciples to **Save a Life** (11:1-3)

2. The **Delay** of the Lord that **Costs a Life** (11:4-6)

3. The **Decision** of the Lord that **Threatens Life** (11:7-16)

4. The **Declarations** of the Lord that **Give Life** (11:17-32)

5. The **Demands** of the Lord that **Restore a Life** (11:33-44)

6. The **Determination** of the Jewish Leaders to **Take a Life** (11: 45-57; 12:9-11)

2. THE SIGNIFICANCE EXPLAINED: LOVE, GLORY, AND OUR GREATEST GOOD!

THREE SIGNIFICANT LESSONS

1. Jesus sometimes **delays** His coming to deliver us from death out of **LOVE**.

- The three siblings **loved** Jesus sincerely and sacrificially. (11:2; 12:1-3)
- Jesus **loved** the three siblings sincerely and sacrificially. (11:3, 5, 11, 36)
- But Jesus intentionally delays His coming and allows a **beloved disciple** to die because of His **greater love** for him and his family! (11:5-6)
- Jesus chooses to **not** do what seems to be **“the most loving thing”** in order to do an **“even more loving thing”** in light of eternity!
 - 1) His delays are **PLANNED**. (v. 6)
 - 2) His delays are **PERSONAL**. (vv. 3, 5)
 - 3) His delays are **PURPOSEFUL**. (vv. 4)

2. Jesus sometimes allows **death** to enter our lives for His **GLORY**.

- His motive is always love **and so** His purpose is always God's glory for our good! (vv. 4-6)
 - 1) Out of love Lord's delays His coming for the purpose of **GOD'S GLORY!** (v. 4)

*“God, **HOW** are you going to use this delay (even one that results in death) for Your glory through Your Son?”*
 - 2) Out of love Lord's delays His coming for the purpose of **OUR GOOD!** (v. 14-15)

*“God, **HOW** are you going to use this delay (even one that results in death) for Your glory through Your Son and **HOW** are you going to use it for my good and good of others on the other side of it?”*

3. Jesus is the resurrection and the life who can **deliver** us from death in this life and the one to come for our greatest **GOOD**.

FOUR LIFE-GIVING DECLARATIONS BY THE I AM GOD

- **“Your brother will rise again.”** (v. 23)
- **“I AM the resurrection and the life.”** (v. 25a)
- **“He who believes in Me, will live even though He dies...”** (v. 25b)
- **“...and everyone who lives and believe in Me will never die.”** (v. 26)

GOOD NEWS FOR US THIS EASTER!

Jesus' delays are never permanent! He is coming again to rapture the living and raise the dead to life! We can still enjoy abundant life in spite of death, grief, and loss! Do you believe this?

Trust and treasure the One who says: “I AM the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.”

JESUS IS THE I AM GOD WHO WILL RAISE THE DEAD TO ETERNAL LIFE AND GIVES ETERNAL LIFE RIGHT NOW TO THE LIVING!

Are you believing this?