

## Lesson January 13: Lazarus and More

1. Read John 11:1-54 and answer:

- Where was Jesus when he got word that Lazarus was sick? (See John 10:40)
- Did Jesus leave to go back immediately?
- Why did the disciples question the wisdom of going back to Bethany?
- Why did Jesus say he was going back?
- What did the disciples think he meant by this?
- When Martha meets Jesus, what was her reaction?
- How did she show her faith in him?
- What was Mary's reaction to Jesus' arrival?
- What moved Jesus to tears?
- Why did Martha not want to 'take away the stone'?
- What was significant about four days?
- When Jesus called for Lazarus to come out, what happened?
- What was the reaction of the people who were there?
- What did the Pharisees fear would happen if the miracles continued?
- What 'prophecy' did Caiaphas the High Priest inadvertently give?
- What was the result of the raising of Lazarus for Jesus?

Notes: Why did Jesus not immediately go and heal Lazarus of his sickness? What happened while He 'waited'? (Their doctors could 'heal' people, though not instantaneously like Jesus, but they could not bring someone back from the dead.)

From their reactions, did Mary and Martha think that Jesus could raise Lazarus from the dead after four days? (The common teaching was that after death, the spirit of the person stayed around the body for three days before it left) – Basically all hope was gone – that's why they had the reaction they did.

Why did Jesus specifically call for Lazarus to come out of the tomb?

See 1Thess 4:16 – When Jesus calls at the end ALL will come out of the grave.

2. Read **Luke 17:11-37** passage and answer:

- What request did ten lepers make of Jesus as he entered a village on the border of Samaria and Galilee?
- What did Jesus tell them to do?
- What was the result when they obeyed him?
- What was it about one of them that impressed Jesus?
- How did Jesus answer the question of when the kingdom of God would come?
- When Jesus comes again, how apparent will it be to everyone?
- Will there be any warning of this coming?
- To what two other events was it likened?

Notes: To be officially declared clean, there was a ritual required that had to be done and they had to be declared clean by showing themselves to the priest. (See Leviticus 14)

How was Jesus' teaching about the kingdom different from the physical 'King Messiah' the Jews were expecting?

At Jesus' second coming, there will be no warning – be ready always!

3. Read **Luke 18:1-14** and answer:

- Jesus told a parable about a widow who kept coming before an unjust judge.
- Why did the judge finally decide to grant her request?
- What is the lesson that Jesus was teaching?
- What question does Jesus wonder about?
- What was the attitude of the Pharisee in the parable of the Pharisee and the tax-collector?
- What was the attitude of the tax-collector?
- What lesson was Jesus teaching?

Notes: What did Jesus mean by: "will He find faith on the earth?" What will he be looking for in the light of this parable of the unjust Judge? (Someone who refuses to give up even in the face of struggles – keep praying!

The Pharisee in Jesus' story was a 'religious' man who made the effort to follow the words of the Law of Moses. Why did God not justify him and what does that mean for us? God looks at the heart and motives as well as actions. Doing the right thing for the wrong reason will result in no reward from God.