**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Jesus Is God’s Answer to Man’s Death |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | John 11:25-26 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1931 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. Jesus is the only reason that we live.
      1. He came that we might live.
         1. John 10:10
   2. Most people today don’t have life, they have existence.
      1. They are fighting to live while they are living to fight.
      2. They are drawing their breath and drawing their salary, and one day is turning into another.
      3. They have got it all backward.
   3. Life is the way we live.
   4. Jesus has come that we might have life.
      1. Satan has come to rob us of life.
         1. John 10:10
   5. Many people don’t have life.
      1. They don’t understand life; they look at life very pessimistically.
      2. Disraeli: “Youth is a blunder, manhood is a struggle, and old age is a regret.”
         1. That may be true if you don’t know the Lord Jesus.
      3. Shakespeare: “Life is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.”
   6. John 11:25-26
   7. There are seven miracles in the Gospel of John.
      1. These are miracles with a message and signs with a significance.
      2. They are literal, actual miracles.
      3. They are miracles of glory that have in them messages of grace.
      4. These miracles happened in order to teach us greater lessons of eternal and spiritual truths.
   8. In this message, we will study the miracle of the raising of Lazarus from the dead.
      1. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead to give us an illustration of the greater spiritual truth of eternal life.
         1. John 11:25-26
            1. This is the greatest truth that we need to learn.
   9. The seven miracles in the Gospel of John include the following:
      1. Jesus turned water into wine.
         1. John 2:1-11
         2. Jesus is God’s answer to man’s disappointment.
            1. The wines of this world run out, but Jesus gives joy that is full, free, and forever.
      2. Jesus healed a nobleman’s son.
         1. John 4:46-54
         2. The nobleman had difficulty believing.
         3. Jesus is God’s answer to man’s doubt.
         4. Jesus gave this man a great lesson on spiritual faith.
      3. Jesus healed an impotent man at the Pool of Bethesda.
         1. This man was paralyzed and could do nothing.
         2. John 5:2-9
         3. Jesus is God’s answer to man’s disability.
            1. Romans 5:6
      4. Jesus fed five thousand hungry people.
         1. John 6:5-13
         2. It was a miracle of glory, but it spoke of grace.
         3. Jesus is God’s answer to man’s desires.
            1. John 6:35
      5. Jesus walked on the water.
         1. John 6:16-21
         2. The disciples were in a storm and were in despair.
         3. The disciples saw that what looked like was going to be over their heads was already under His feet.
         4. Jesus is God’s answer to man’s despair.
      6. Jesus opened the eyes of a man born blind.
         1. John 9:1-7
         2. Jesus is God’s answer to man’s darkness.
            1. John 8:12
      7. Jesus raised a man from the dead.
         1. His name was Lazarus.
         2. Jesus is God’s answer to death.
            1. John 11:25
      8. These are miracles of glory that speak of greater miracles of grace.
         1. Believe in miracles, but trust in Jesus.
            1. These miracles are not to have us put our faith in miracles.
            2. Our faith is to be in the Lord Jesus Christ.
   10. Today’s message will look at the miracle of the raising of Lazarus and will give us some steps that will help us to have a full and abundant life.
2. we must experience life in jesus (john 11:14, 26)
   1. John 11:14
      1. Lazarus was dead.
   2. There might have been many wonderful things that could have been said about Lazarus, but there was nothing really right about him because there was one thing very wrong about him.
      1. He was dead.
   3. Some people might say many wonderful things about us, but if we don’t know the Lord Jesus, then what does it matter if we are dead?
   4. Many people are dead in trespasses and sin.
      1. 1 Timothy 5:6
      2. They are dead while they live.
   5. There are other people we call dead who are not dead at all.
      1. It is totally impossible for a Christian to die.
      2. If they knew Jesus, then they are not dead.
      3. Their body may have ceased to function, but the body is just an earthly house.
      4. John 11:26
         1. If we are saved, then we cannot die.
            1. We just simply move out.

2 Corinthians 5:8

* 1. Many people think they have life, but Jesus says that they are dead.
  2. Many people whom we call dead are not dead at all because they have eternal life.
     1. We never really die when we know the Lord Jesus Christ.
  3. Sometimes we look at other people, and we think that we are better than they are.
     1. The Bible records that Jesus raised three from the dead:
        1. A little girl
           1. Matthew 9:18-26
           2. Jesus said that she was asleep, and everyone laughed him to scorn.
           3. Her body was still warm.
           4. In the Greek language, Jesus literally said, “Little darling, get up.”
        2. A young man being carried to his funeral
           1. Luke 7:12-15
           2. Rigor mortis had set in, but decay had not yet set in.
        3. Lazarus
           1. John 11:1-44
           2. Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days.

There was time for decay and corruption to begin.

* + - 1. Which one was the most dead?
         1. Dead is dead.
         2. There is no such thing as being a little bit dead.
    1. We compare ourselves to the drunk covered with vomit and flies and reeking in corruption, to the drug addict, and to the prostitute.
       1. But someone sitting in a church service without Jesus is just as dead.
    2. Without Jesus Christ, we are dead in trespasses and sin.
       1. Ephesians 2:1
       2. We need life from the Lord Jesus Christ.
  1. How do we experience life in Christ?
     1. Suppose there were a deceased person we were trying to raise from the dead.
     2. Sociologists, psychologists, and psychiatrists tell us that people today need the following “E’s”:
        1. Example
        2. Encouragement
        3. Environment
        4. Education
     3. How would we raise him?
        1. By giving him an example.
           1. We could show him how a live man lives.
           2. An example will not raise a dead man.
        2. We could encourage him with our words.
           1. But we cannot encourage a dead man to life.
        3. We could change his environment.
           1. We could take the dead man and leave him in a room full of living people.

The right environment might give him life.

* + - * 1. But environment is not the answer.
        2. We should do all that we can to help people have a good environment, but Adam and Eve got into trouble in the Garden of Eden.

You cannot have a better environment than that.

* + - 1. We could educate the man.
         1. Many people think that the answer to the world’s problems is education.

But the answer is Jesus.

Salvation does not come by learning lessons from the life of Christ, but by receiving life from the death of Christ.

* + 1. The above four “E’s” are not the answer for a dead man.
       1. We need life from the Lord Jesus.
          1. That is why Jesus raised Lazarus from the grave.

To tell us what it is all about.

* 1. How did Jesus raise Lazarus?
     1. Jesus told him to come forth.
        1. John 11:43
        2. There was no pleading and no argument.
  2. We raise a dead man spiritually the same way that Jesus raised Lazarus physically.
     1. Jesus raised him by His Word.
        1. John 6:63
           1. In this verse, the word “quickeneth” means “gives life”.
     2. We are born again by the Word of God.
     3. Hebrews 4:12
        1. In this verse, the word “quick” is the word from which we get the word “zoology.”
           1. It means “alive”, “powerful”, and “to energize with power”.
     4. You raise a dead man by the Word of God.
     5. Philippians 2:16
        1. We are to be “holding forth the Word of Life”.

1. we must exercise liberty through jesus (john 11:44)
   1. Lazarus came out of the grave.
      1. He had life, but he didn’t have liberty.
         1. He was bound, blind and gagged.
         2. He couldn’t walk, he couldn’t wo rk, he couldn’t speak, and he couldn’t see.
      2. Jesus said to loose him and to let him go.
   2. Lazarus, at this stage, was like many people.
      1. They have been saved, but they are not living in victory.
      2. They have been to Calvary for pardon, but they have not yet been to Pentecost for power.
         1. Somehow, they got bogged down between Calvary and Pentecost.
      3. They have life, but they don’t have liberty.
   3. Lazarus may have had life, but he had the stench of death on him.
      1. The grave clothes were relics of his old life.
         1. The Lord Jesus said to take them off of him, unwrap him, and let him go.
   4. Jesus did not simply come to give us life, but He came to give us abundant life.
      1. He does not want us wearing the grave clothes of the old life.
      2. John 8:32
      3. John 8:36
      4. So many of us are still wearing the grave clothes of the old life, yet we have truly been saved.
         1. The old loves, the old lusts, and the old lies have all stayed because we still have the grave clothes of the old life.
         2. But Jesus said to set him free.
            1. That is the reason we need the church.
   5. What is the ministry of the church?
      1. To call forth and to raise the dead.
      2. To unwrap the saints.
         1. To give them liberty.
2. we must enjoy love for jesus (john 12:1-2)
   1. Lazarus had gone from the tomb to the table.
      1. He had no more grave clothes.
   2. Lazarus was face-to-face with Jesus.
      1. He was having a meal with Jesus.
   3. We can have fellowship with Jesus.
      1. That is what we have every time we come to the Lord’s table.
         1. We have a meal with the Lord Jesus Christ.
            1. Revelation 3:20
   4. Many times, Jesus invited His disciples to eat with Him.
      1. He would say, “Come and dine.”
         1. John 21:12
   5. It is our legacy to fellowship with one another.
   6. It is our legacy to fellowship with the Lord Jesus.
   7. Salvation is not a penalty that we pay in order to get to Heaven.
      1. We should want to be Christians even if there were no Heaven.
         1. But there is a Heaven.
         2. Just to know the Lord Jesus Christ in this life, to love Him, and to have Him love us back.
3. we must express loyalty to jesus (john 12:9-11)
   1. Lazarus stood up for Jesus.
      1. He gave testimonies for Jesus.
      2. He was dangerous to Satan’s kingdom.
         1. People were coming to Jesus and being saved.
   2. The Pharisees wanted to stop Lazarus from talking about Jesus.
      1. They wanted to put him to death.
         1. Death held no more terrors for Lazarus.
         2. He was not intimidated at all by the fact that they might put him to death.
      2. Satan is the sinister minister of fear.
         1. The Bible says that through the fear of death, he keeps people in bondage.
            1. Hebrews 2:15
   3. Lazarus was no longer afraid of death.
      1. He had the Lord of life.
      2. They might destroy his body, but all they could do was hasten him on to Heaven.
         1. He knew that now.
      3. No man is ready to live until he is no longer afraid to die.
         1. When we are no longer afraid to die, then we live as Lazarus lived.
   4. When we live our lives for Jesus and have life, liberty, love, fellowship, and loyalty to the Lord Jesus Christ, we experience the life that Jesus talked about when He said that He came that we might have life and have it abundantly.
      1. John 10:10
4. CONCLUSION
   1. Many people have problems.
      1. They are not saved.
   2. The answer to their problem is not a “what” but a “who”.
      1. His name is Jesus.
         1. He is God’s answer to their problem.
   3. No matter what your problem is, the One who can raise the dead is the answer to your problem.
      1. You don’t have a problem too big for Him.
   4. Believe in miracles, but trust in Jesus.
   5. He did not come just to open blind eyes, unstop deaf ears, straighten withered arms, or to raise physical bodies temporarily from the grave.
      1. He came to save souls.
      2. John 10:10
   6. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   7. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16