

JOHN: THE WORD: GRACE AND TRUTH

John 11:38-57

John 12:26

- A brief review:

³⁸ So Jesus, again being deeply moved within, came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus *said, "Remove the stone." Martha, the sister of the deceased, *said to Him, "Lord, by this time there will be a stench, for he has been *dead* four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus *said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they removed the stone. Then Jesus raised His eyes, and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. ⁴² I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me." ⁴³ When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth." ⁴⁴ The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him. ⁴⁶ But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them the things which Jesus had done.

- Jesus' prayer is to God and for the people. **(v38-42)**
- There are times when God's glory is surrounded by 'smelly circumstances.' **(v38-42)**
- Jesus commands Lazarus to come out of the grave and he does! **(v43-46)**
- ... "Free him of the burial wrappings and let him go..." **(v44 AMPC)**
- ... "Untie him...and let him go free." **(v44 Weymouth)**
- Lazarus had to overcome the consequences of being tied up in a 'pit' for four days...
- Many of the Jews who had come to comfort the family believed in Jesus... "Upon seeing what He had done..." **(v45 AMPC)**
- Some became 'Jesus believers' and some Jews were 'whistle blowers' and repeated to the Pharisees what Jesus had done. **(v46)**

⁴⁷ Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council, and were saying, "What are we doing? For this man is performing many signs. ⁴⁸ If we let Him *go on* like this, all men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." ⁴⁹ But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, ⁵⁰ nor do you take into account that it is expedient for you that one man die for the people, and that the whole nation not perish." ⁵¹ Now he did not say this on his own initiative, but being high priest that year,

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he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation, ⁵² and not for the nation only, but in order that He might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. ⁵³ So from that day on they planned together to kill Him.

⁵⁴ Therefore Jesus no longer continued to walk publicly among the Jews, but went away from there to the country near the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim; and there He stayed with the disciples. ⁵⁵ Now the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up to Jerusalem out of the country before the Passover to purify themselves. ⁵⁶ So they were seeking for Jesus, and were saying to one another as they stood in the temple, "What do you think; that He will not come to the feast at all?" ⁵⁷ Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where He was, he was to report it, so that they might seize Him. **John 11 47-57 NASB**

- The Pharisees have a meeting. (v47-53)
 - So...this man is performing many 'signs'...attesting miracles. What do we do now?
 - If we let him alone to go on like this, then everyone will believe in him! And we will lose our nation and our 'place'!
 - They feared they would lose their temple, their city, and their 'position'!
 - Caiaphas speaks up. He is the High Priest at this point in history, and he is a Sadducee.
 - He was critical of the other leaders and expressed the value and expediency of one man dying so that their 'nation' would not be tossed.
 - He prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation...this was out of expediency...not out of revelation and faith....it was about preserving their power and privilege.
 - As a result, the Pharisees planned together to kill Jesus. (v53)

⁵⁴ Therefore Jesus no longer continued to walk publicly among the Jews, but went away from there to the country near the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim; and there He stayed with the disciples. ⁵⁵ Now the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up to Jerusalem out of the country before the Passover to purify themselves. ⁵⁶ So they were seeking for Jesus, and were saying to one another as they stood in the temple, "What do you think; that He will not come to the feast at all?" ⁵⁷ Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where He was, he was to report it, so that they might seize Him. **John 11:54-57 NASB**

- Jesus stopped 'hanging out' publicly and he stayed in the countryside.

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- The time for the Feast of the Passover was drawing near and the Pharisees put out an order for anyone who saw Jesus to report his whereabouts so they could arrest Him.

12 Jesus, therefore, six days before the Passover, came to Bethany where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² So they made Him a supper there, and Martha was serving; but Lazarus was one of those reclining *at the table* with Him. ³ Mary then took a ^[a]pound of very costly perfume of pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, who was intending to ^[b]betray Him, *said, ⁵ “Why was this perfume not sold for ^[c]three hundred denarii and given to poor *people*?” ⁶ Now he said this, not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box, he used to pilfer what was put into it. ⁷ Therefore Jesus said, “Let her alone, so that she may keep ^[d]it for the day of My burial. ⁸ For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have Me.” ⁹ The large crowd of the Jews then learned that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus’ sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead. ¹⁰ But the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death also; ¹¹ because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and were believing in Jesus.

Jesus Enters Jerusalem

¹² On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, ¹³ took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and *began* to shout, “Hosanna! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, even the King of Israel.” ¹⁴ Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written, ¹⁵ “FEAR NOT, DAUGHTER OF ZION; BEHOLD, YOUR KING IS COMING, SEATED ON A DONKEY’S COLT.” ¹⁶ These things His disciples did not understand at the first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him. ¹⁷ So the ^[e]people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, continued to testify *about Him*. ¹⁸ For this reason also the ^[f]people went and met Him, because they heard that He had performed this ^[g]sign. ¹⁹ So the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are not doing any good; look, the world has gone after Him.” **John 12:1-19 NASB**

- Jesus is in Bethany (two miles outside of Jerusalem) at the home of Lazarus and his sisters.
 - Lazarus is sitting with Jesus at the table, Martha is serving dinner, and Mary is anointing Jesus’ feet and wiping His feet with her hair.

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- She anoints His feet with Nard, a very expensive fragrant oil that was used in celebrations but also for burials (see **Luke 10:39** and **John 11:32**)
- Note – she anoints His feet, NOT His head, and ‘lets her hair down’!
- Judas condemns her ‘fragrant’ act...this oil could have been sold and the money could have been given to the poor...he had a ‘hidden’ agenda. (**v4-6**)
- Jesus defends Mary...there was a purpose (preparation for burial) that no one fully understood. (**v7**)
- You will always have the poor with you...giving to the poor is wrongly motivated if one is trying to get ‘brownie points’ with God by your giving. (**v8**)
- Mary’s giving was extravagant...not just dutiful...she poured out her heart and her resources for the Lord. (**v8**)
- The people came to see Jesus and to see Lazarus...the man who was alive from the dead. (**v9-11**)
- Because of Lazarus, many people were ‘going away’ (away from the Pharisees teaching and authority) and were believing in Jesus. (**v9-11**)
- All this put Lazarus on the Pharisees’ ‘most wanted list’ and they planned his murder as well. (**v9-11**)

Jesus comes to Jerusalem

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Greeks Seek Jesus

²⁰ Now there were some Greeks among those who were going up to worship at the feast; ²¹ these then came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and *began to* ask him, saying, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²² Philip came and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip came and told Jesus. ²³ And Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come for

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the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal. ²⁶ If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him. **John 12:12-26 NASB**

- A victory march!
 - Jesus rides into the city on a donkey to the shouts of crowds with palm branches declaring, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel.” (v13)
 - The disciples didn’t ‘get’ all these things at first, but once He was glorified, they remembered and understood much of what had been written, said, and done to Him.

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, humble, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the horse from Jerusalem; and the bow of war will be cut off. And He will speak peace to the nations; and His dominion will be from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth. Zechariah 9:9-10 NASB

- The power of miracles and testimony! Those who had seen Jesus raise Lazarus from the grave continued to testify about it, people continued to believe it, and the Pharisees continued to be angered, flustered, and eager to eliminate Jesus. (v17-19)

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- Some Greeks approached Phillip (Phillip is a Greek name) and they wanted to see Jesus. **(v21-22)**
- Jesus' reply to Phillip and Andrew..."It is time for the Son of Man to be glorified..." **(v23)**
- The principle of the seed needing to die to being a seed so it can become a seed giving plant. **(v24-26)**
- Jesus is speaking of multiplication in the natural realm and glorification in the spirit realm. **(v24-26)**