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We are going to study the events that led up to the resurrection of Lazarus of Bethany. We won't find much about Lazarus nor why Jesus had befriended the family. Some speculate that it was a place of refuge from the world that was seeking to kill him.

Bethany is about two miles east of Jerusalem on the Mount of Olives. It is reported to be one of the more beautiful spots near Jerusalem. We had discussed before the monumental events that have taken place and will take place on the Mount of Olives, such as:

When Absalom rebelled against his father King David, David went up to the Mount of Olives, weeping as he went and was followed by his loyal soldiers and their families.

***2 Samuel 15: [30](#) And David went up by the ascent of mount Olivet, and wept as he went up, and had his head covered, and he went barefoot: and all the people that was with him covered every man his head, and they went up, weeping as they went up.***

Bible scholars believe that when Abraham was told to take Isaac to a mountaintop and to sacrifice his only son; that

mountain was the Mount of Olives. There is a non-Biblical-term that calls the Temple Mount “Lower Mt Moriah”, and the Mount of Olives “Upper Mt Moriah”.

The Glory of the Lord when it left the City of Jerusalem went to the Mount of Olives and stopped there.

***Ezekiel 11:23***

***The glory of the LORD went up from within the city and stopped above the mountain east of it.***

Gethsemane is on the Mount of Olives. When Jesus went to pray before His arrest it was on the Mount of Olives. When Jesus was betrayed, it was on the Mount of Olives. When Peter cut off the ear of the Temple Guard it was on the Mount of Olives.

Jesus when He departed into the sky in the clouds from the Mount of Olives.

When Jesus returns, He will stand on the Mount of Olives, and it will separate the mountain into two halves, one moving to the north, the other half moving south.

Zechariah 14: ***1Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. 2For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city***

*shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. **3** Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. **4** And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the **mount of Olives** shall **cleave** in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*

The Mount of Olives offers a lesson in separation/division, an intriguing look into the separation and divisions that have taken place with an abundance of Spiritual meaning.

**Q.** The Olivet Discourse, why was it called that?

Jesus in these verses speaks of division, separation, persecution. Think in terms of separation on everything Jesus speaks of, the stones of the temple, of wars, nations, kingdoms, even families.

### ***Jesus Predicts the Destruction of the Temple***

***Luke 21:5 Then, as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and donations, He said, **6 “These things which you see—the days will come in which not one stone shall be left upon another that shall not be thrown down.”*****

***7 So they asked Him, saying, “Teacher, but when will these things be? And what sign will there be when these things are about to take place?”***

***8 And He said: “Take heed that you not be deceived. For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am He,’***

and, 'The time has drawn near.' Therefore[b] do not go after them. 9 But when you hear of wars and commotions, do not be terrified; for these things must come to pass first, but the end will not come immediately."

**10 Then He said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. 11 And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven. 12 But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name's sake. 13 But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. 14 Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; 15 for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist. 16 You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. 17 And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. 18 But not a hair of your head shall be lost. 19 By your patience possess your souls.**

### **The Destruction of Jerusalem**

**20 "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. 21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. 22 For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. 23 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. 24 And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.**

### ***The Coming of the Son of Man***

***25 “And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; 26 men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.”***

### ***The Parable of the Fig Tree***

***29 Then He spoke to them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. 30 When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near. 31 So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. 32 Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.***

### ***The Importance of Watching***

***34 “But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. 35 For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy[c] to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”***

***37 And in the daytime He was teaching in the temple, but at night He went out and stayed on the mountain called Olivet. 38 Then early in the morning all the people came to Him in the temple to hear Him.***

And we find the town of Bethany on the Mount of Olives.

## John 11

**1**Now a certain *man* was sick, *named* Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. **2**(It was *that* Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.) **3**Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.

We will get into this in a minute but there are two words for Love used in these next several verses. This one used by Lazarus sister is friend love, the second one we will see “love” as God like love.

So back to the name Lazarus and Bethany and love.

### **Strong’s Concordance**

**“*Transliteration:* Lazaros**

***Short Definition:* Lazarus, Eliezer**

***Definition:* Lazarus, Eliezer, (a) the beggar, (b) the brother of Martha and Mary, of Bethany.”**

The original word in Hebrew is the same name in Greek for Lazarus. In Hebrew it means; “God has helped”.

The word Bethany can mean either the “house of dates” or “house of affliction”.

The word used for “loved” here is “**phileo**” a type of love

between friends as opposed to God love which is “**Agape**” love.

### **Strong’s Concordance**

*“Phileo” I love (of friendship), regard with affection, cherish; I kiss.”*

**4When Jesus heard *that*, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.**

**Strong’s Concordance** This term death in the Greek is:

*“2288 thánatos— physical or spiritual death; (figuratively) **separation** from the life (salvation) of God forever by dying without first experiencing death to self to receive His gift of salvation.”*

So, Jesus was saying that this death was not the death that will lead to **separation** from God but separation from the physical world.

A second term for death in the Greek; a type of death we do not want is:

### **Strong’s Concordance**

**“Transliteration:** olethros

**Phonetic Spelling:** (ol'-eth-ros)

**Definition:** ruin, doom, destruction, death.”

But Jesus was saying that this sickness was not unto the

type of death that would separate Lazarus from God for ever but would separate Lazarus from this world and his loved ones.

**5Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.**

Now this “loved” is agapao, a love that believers and God share for one another.

Strong’s Concordance

**“Transliteration:** *agapaó*

**Phonetic Spelling:** *(ag-ap-ah'-o)*

**Short Definition:** *I love*

**Definition:** *I love, wish well to, take pleasure in, long for; denotes the love of reason, esteem.”*

**6When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.**

**Q.** Why two days?

The number 2 conveys the meaning of a union, division or the verification of facts by witnesses.

**Q.** If we look at the context of this verse is it conveying a unity?

I think it conveys separation, if it were unity, Jesus would have gone immediately to His friend’s side but He



specifically stayed **separated** two days. So, if the “2” is talking about separation, what separation is it talking about?

This separation is to bring about “glory to God”. How can separation bring glory to God and the Son of Man might be Glorified. Vs 4

Separation but not from God, would mean death a separation from life that is not permanent. Permanent separation from God would be the “Thanatos” a spiritual permanent separation from God or in another Greek term;

### **Strong’s Concordance**

**“Transliteration:** *olethros*

**Phonetic Spelling:** *(ol'-eth-ros)*

**Definition:** *ruin, doom, destruction, death”*

But this death was neither of those, this would bring glory to God and the Son of Man would be Glorified. Neither of which happen in “thanatos” or “olethros” death.

**Q.** Does anyone remember from the end of Chapter 10 where Jesus and His disciples are?

They are where John did his baptizing in what now would be called Jordan.

***John 10:40* And went away again beyond Jordan into the place where John at first baptized; and there he abode.**

**7**Then after that saith he to *his* disciples, Let us go into Judaea again. **8***His* disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?

**Q.** What is the major city in Judaea?

Jerusalem

**9**Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world.

To us this would be an odd statement. How many hours in a day do we say there is? 24

The Lord divided the night and the day all the way back in Genesis. The Greek term for light is “or” it is used to describe the light we can see from the sun and the “Light” we get from the SON. It the same word used in Job 33:30 so the context of the verse figures out what is being referenced.

***Job 33:30* To bring back his soul from the pit, to be enlightened with the light of the living.**

The Light is of course to us Jesus Christ. The night or darkness is of course the evil that is present in the world. We are told that Satan will come as an angle of light an

imposter.

**2 Corinthians 11:...<sup>13</sup>For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. <sup>14</sup>No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. <sup>15</sup>Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds.**

**Proverbs 25:14**

***Like clouds and wind without rain is the man who boasts of gifts never given.***

**10But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.**

**Q.** So, the point is what?

It really isn't about daylight and nighttime it is about the heart. If the heart is filled with Christ, then it is possible to walk in Truth or Light and not stumble due to lies of Satan. If Christ is not in your heart, then neither is the Truth so you will stumble not having any reference or being able to see what is true.

The next few verses are an example of understanding Spiritual Truth through the Light of Christ and not seeing it or as is the case with the disciples still being in the dark.

**11These things said he: and after that he saith unto**

**them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.**

There is a saying, “die once, live twice, die twice live once”. Does everyone understand what that is saying. Jesus is putting into context here that if death were to occur now and the person is not saved, they cannot be saved.

**12Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. 13Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. 14Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.**

We all prefer God to speak plainly to us, it just make obedience easier or at least the opportunity to be obedient is made easier. But to know God’s Will takes effort and the effort is most often spent in time with Him in Prayer and studying His Word.

**15And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him. 16Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellow disciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him.**

Didymus and Thomas means “twin” in both Greek and Aramaic.

**17 Then when Jesus came, he found that he had *lain* in the grave four days already.**

Remember we saw that Jesus delayed His departure from where Jesus and the Disciples were which we found in John 9:40 they were where John Baptized beyond the Jordan.

**Q.** How long did Jesus delay before leaving the Jordan region to go to Lazarus? Two days

And remember we found that in the Bible numbers mean something and in this case two can either mean union or separation. It seemed most likely that in this case it was separation as it was speaking of Lazarus and his being dead or separated from this life. So, now we find that when Jesus arrives at the time it is now four days since Lazarus died, so it took Jesus and the disciples two days of travel from beyond the Jordan.

*In Bible numbers, four is associated with “creation”. The number 4 derives its meaning from creation. On the fourth day of what is called 'creation week' God completed the material universe. On this day he brought into existence our sun, the moon, and all the stars (Genesis 1:14 - 19). Their purpose was not only to give off light, but also to divide the day from the night on earth, thus becoming a basic demarcation of time. They were also made to be a type of signal that would mark off the days, years and seasons. Biblestudy.org*

So, we had the number two and, in its context, “division or separation” sounds most logical; Meaning that Lazarus was

separated from life. And now the number “four” references “creation”. This event will be Jesus first “resurrection” creation of life from death or bringing back to unison from separation; bringing back Lazarus from the dead (separated) through a creation process and “Unity” with his family.

**18 Now Bethany was nigh unto Jerusalem, about fifteen furlongs off:**

Less than two miles; (1, 7/8 miles) a distance which was referred to as a Sabbath’s days walk.

**19 And many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.**

In the next 25 verses we will see a contrast between two sisters. This contrast can be seen also in Luke 10 when Jesus visits their home for the first time. If you recall Martha was a worrier and Mary was quiet and consumed with Jesus, sitting at His feet to learn. Martha was flitting around trying to address everyone’s needs but doing it in the flesh. Now there is nothing wrong per-se with trying to make people comfortable unless it interrupts your personal relationship with Jesus Christ. As Christians we are to have order in our lives, a Godly directed order which will help us sit with Mary at the Masters feet to receive the better portion.

**Q.** What is the Biblical and proper order of things in the life of a Christian in the following five things?

2. Spouse

3. Family

1. God

4. Church

5. Rest of the world

1. **God** - Deuteronomy 6: <sup>5</sup> You <sup>e</sup>shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. **Spouse** – Ephesians 5: <sup>22</sup> <sup>w</sup>Wives, <sup>a</sup>submit to your own husbands, <sup>b</sup>as to the Lord.

Ephesians 5: <sup>25</sup> <sup>g</sup>Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and <sup>h</sup>gave himself up for her,

3. **Family** — Ephesians 5: <sup>31</sup> <sup>o</sup>“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and <sup>p</sup>the two shall become one flesh.”

### **Parents care of children**

Proverbs <sup>6</sup> <sup>w</sup>Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Ephesian 6: <sup>4</sup> Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, <sup>u</sup>but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

### **Children care of parents**

Deuteronomy 5: <sup>16</sup> “ ‘Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God commanded you, <sup>i</sup>that your days may be long, and that it may go well with you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

### **Remainder of your family**

1 Timothy 5:8 <sup>8</sup> But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for <sup>i</sup>members of his household, he has <sup>m</sup>denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

4. **Church** – Galatians 5: <sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers. <sup>q</sup>Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love <sup>r</sup>serve one another.

Ephesians 4: <sup>32</sup> <sup>h</sup>Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, <sup>i</sup>forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Thessalonians 5: <sup>11</sup> Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Hebrews 10: <sup>24</sup> And <sup>z</sup>let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

Matthew 28: <sup>19</sup> <sup>i</sup>Go therefore and <sup>k</sup>make disciples of <sup>i</sup>all nations, <sup>i</sup>baptizing them <sup>m</sup>in <sup>2</sup> <sup>n</sup>the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

I got a lot of help on this outline from Your Family, God's Way; by Wayne Mack



**20**Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat *still* in the house.

**Q.** So what were the two different reactions by the two sisters here?

Martha rushes off to find Jesus, Mary sits still and waits for Jesus.

In the next verse 21 does Martha confront Jesus or does she seek His counsel?

**21**Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

Martha then softens it a bit by adding vs 22.

**22**But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give *it* thee.

Now catch this, Martha is all about death and Jesus is all about life. Martha will miss the point, and we will see that later in Chapter 11.

**23**Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. **24**Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.

Jesus will try to help her understand an amazing Spiritual Truth here, that the very One she is talking to is in fact going

to be the Resurrection of the dead.

## March 23, 2025

**25Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 26And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?**

Jesus asks us the same question.

Jesus asks Martha if she believes Him when He tells her that He is the Resurrection and life and that anyone who believes in Him though they were dead, yet shall they live, and who ever believes in Jesus Christ shall never die. For us, the question is the same today; DO WE BELIEVE HIM?

**27She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.**

God had told Israel and the world about His coming Son.

Martha is a Hebrew having been raised in the Law and Prophets. Psalms declares God's intent about His Son.

Martha through her long-time relationship with Jesus and her family, is convinced that He is the promised Messiah.

***Psalms 2: [1](#)Why do the heathen rage, and the people***

*imagine a vain thing? **2**The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, **3**Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. **4**He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. **5**Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. **6**Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. **7**I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. **8**Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. **9**Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. **10**Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. **11**Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. **12**Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.*

She knows He is the Messiah, Christ in the Greek means “Messiah”. She did not fully understand Jesus’s power as the Son of God at this moment, over death. No one at this time was fully aware of Jesus’ power.

How about now? Do we understand the power of Christ the Messiah?

***“John 11:24Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”***

So back to vs 12, she did not really answer Jesus’ question when He asked her if she believed in Vs 25 and 26 that He

was the resurrection and He brings life. So, she gives the more religious/political answer of the day but denies out of lack of Spiritual understanding that HE IS the Resurrection. It is likely that she just didn't understand, and we have the benefit of 2020 hindsight and see it clearly.

Trying to be clear here; there is a resurrection, when the dead in Christ shall rise in bodily form to be with Christ forever. However, Jesus IS THE RESURECTION. There is no RESURECTION without HIM. When Jesus asked Martha if she believed vs 25 and 26.

***25Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 26And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?***

I may be splitting hairs, but it was important to Jesus that Martha understood the difference between the event and the reason for the event. The event is the Resurrection, the reason for the event is JESUS the MESSIAH.

**28And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, The Master is come, and calleth for thee.**

We all know people that are what we might call "abrupt" or "confrontational" which strikes me as being Martha's

demeanor.

Now this verse is interesting in that Martha says her piece then leaves Jesus and goes to her sister. One might assume that Martha was a bit peeved with Mary as she was in Luke 10, in that she had not jumped up and confronted Jesus about why He had not been there when they needed Him. Martha also tells Mary that Jesus had called her even though in the conversation with Jesus John did not record anything about having Mary sent to Him.

I wonder, why “secretly”. “....***secretly, saying, The Master is come, and calleth for thee.***”

**29As soon as she heard *that*, she arose quickly, and came unto him.**

Mary is a person that wants to be obedient to the Lord. When she is told that the Lord had called her, she went at once.

The lesson to learn here is that when Jesus calls, don't hesitate, respond precisely and immediately as He has asked.

**30Now Jesus was not yet come into the town, but was in that place where Martha met him.**

This may be one sign that Jesus had in fact called for Mary in that He stayed in the same place. If He had called for Mary and then went to another place she would have had to try and find Him.

When Jesus calls us, we know exactly where to look. We can look to His Word, He is always there, always the same and never changes. We can go to the Unchanging Thrown Room where God and Jesus are present. We can even look to our hearts where Jesus has come to make a home. He is never far away and is always available to just talk with.

Remember this, in any conversation with Jesus or God, it will never be outside of His Word. If something comes to you that does not match God's Word, always test the Spirits and compare what is being said with God's Word. If they don't match exactly, reject this new conversation, it is not of the Lord.

**31The Jews then which were with her in the house, and comforted her, when they saw Mary, that she rose up hastily and went out, followed her, saying, She goeth unto the grave to weep there.**

Here again we see two different approaches to Christ.

Martha had come to Jesus in what one could believe was a bit confrontational, perhaps "pridefully", standing up face to

face and questioning where He had been when they needed Him.

The opposite is true of Mary's approach to the God of the Universe. We find her doing the same thing she had done in:

***Luke 10: [38](#)As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. [39](#)She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. [40](#)But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" [41](#)"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, [42](#)but few things are needed—or indeed only one.<sup>f</sup> Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."***

**32**Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

***21***Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

Identical words but what is the big difference?

Mary fell at the feet of the Creator of the Universe, the Messiah, the Lord God Almighty, she showed humbleness, a contrite spirit; true devotion and belief in Jesus being the One and Only Son of God and she sought to be at His feet.

You can just sense the softness in her voice as she does not contend with Jesus but simply says her total and complete belief that He, Jesus the Christ (Messiah), has total power over death.

In the examples that we have studied there is a more obvious issue that Jesus was dealing with in the Jewish traditions. That was the subservient roll of women in this society. Jesus time after time went against the standards and teaching of this cultural disconnect. He was making it clear in all these interactions with women (the woman at the well, dealing with Martha and Mary, the widow and her mite, the woman that touched His garment and was healed, the woman caught in adultery, etc.

Jesus was making the point in reality that God equally loved them, and that God revered them for being exactly what God had designed women to be. All humanity is equally loved by God. It is simply up to each individual in humanity as to what becomes of that Love from God. God's offers it without exception, but it is conditional. Love of and Belief in His Son.

As we read and study the Bible, we will find that "context" is critical in understanding God's Word in Truth. It is possible to take God's Word out of context and make it say something



that is completely opposite of God's intent. Here is an unbelievable example of that recently on "understanding the times."

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=un\\_qwTel3-Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=un_qwTel3-Q)

beginning at about 19:00 minutes on the video

Context, context, context!

Back to our study

**33When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled,**

***Psalms 51: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.***

***Psalms 34:18 The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.***

***Psalm 147:3  
He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.***

***Isaiah 66:2  
Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?" declares the LORD. "These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at my word.***

Jesus was moved not by the words because this is the

second time He heard them. Now, came an emotional response from Jesus.

***“He groaned in the Spirit and was troubled.”***

This word, “troubled”, according to Strong’s Concordance in the Greek is tar-as'-so:

*"to cause one inward commotion, take away his calmness of mind, disturb his equanimity; to disquiet, make restless"*

**34And said, *Where have ye laid him?* They said unto him, Lord, come and see.**

**35Jesus wept.**

As we all know this is the shortest verse in the Bible but perhaps one of the most powerful as well. Jesus was after all human in the physical sense. He wrestled with all the emotional issues humans contend with. Did He weep because of the earlier verses and the context of his close and dear friends' loss?

***34And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see.***

Probably not. Being human there has been a mounting pressure to act by those whom He loved. They were wanting Him to bring back Lazarus whom He also loved. He was

seeing the full emotional pain of people He loved, in great pain over the death of their brother. He saw hearts that were changing and hearts that were still unmoved. He knew the future of what was to happen to Him in the flesh and the hatred of the Jews those who He came to save. It is in fact the Creator God standing among His creation that has by the greater margin rejected Him, rejected God and all of this results in an emotional release. I think that is why “Jesus wept”.

**36Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him!  
37And some of them said, Could not this man,  
which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused  
that even this man should not have died?**

**38Jesus therefore again groaning in himself  
cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay  
upon it.**

Notice in the next verse who is first to speak after Jesus tells them to remove the stone. She had declared Him to be the Son of God just moments ago.

**39Jesus said, *Take ye away the stone.* Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been *dead* four days. 40Jesus saith unto her, *Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?***

Jesus is still trying to reach Martha as perhaps with some of us on a Spiritual level that we cannot fathom yet. However, He is persistent and His desire in Martha's life and ours is to see the glory of God. In how many ways do we fight Him, when His only desire is to have a true relationship with us, based on Truth, Hope, Peace and Love.

**41**Then they took away the stone *from the place* where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up *his* eyes, and said, **Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. 42**And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said *it*, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. **43**And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, **Lazarus, come forth.**

There is so much here it could take weeks to unearth the monumental meaning. The Son speaks to the Father with full assurance that He is in the Father's presence and the Father hears Him instantly. Jesus speaks out loud for the benefit of those who could hear Him and for the benefit of those who could not yet believe.

Is there any more righteous than Jesus Christ?

It has been said that Jesus called out the name of Lazarus specifically because if He had simply said "come forth" all those who were dead would have arisen.

I believe this is an example of what the Rapture will be like. Jesus will call all those who are dead in Him and they will come forth out of the grave or in whatever condition they are including the sea. Then He will call those who are still alive and instantly both will be changed forever with physical bodies, to be with Christ forever.

*1 Thessalonians 4: [16](#)For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: [17](#)Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. [18](#)Wherefore comfort one another with these words.*

**44**And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, **Loose him, and let him go.**

***The Plot to Kill Jesus  
(Matthew 26:1-5; Mark 14:1-2; Luke 22:1-6)***

**45**Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him. **46**But some of them went their ways to the Pharisees, and told them what things Jesus had done.

We can fully understand the magnitude of such an event. The dead brought back to life. We have seen it in our own lives but in the Spiritual sense, the dead spirit of our own

was brought back to life through the blood of Jesus. But these folks saw a physical manifestation of the power of the life-giving blood of Jesus even before the crucifixion, where His redemptive blood was spilled.

It is not hard to believe that it would cause many to believe that He was the Messiah.

***45Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him.***

How is it that many did not believe?

The heart of man is a fickle thing, it is driving mostly by emotion, lust, hate, love but only when it is driving by God does it take on a new life. Surrender, total surrender is what stands between man and God. To be satisfied with what God has given us, to be obedient in His Word that is His desire in our lives. Anything less leaves us with doubts and trouble.

***John 20: 29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.***

**47Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, What do we? for this man doeth many miracles.**

When the power of man is being challenged with the threat of it being removed men will stop at nothing to save their power. Look at history, when the status quo, the power of a dictator, despot or politician is being eroded is there anything these men and women will not do to save their power. The very ones Jesus came to save are the very ones who will not let go of their power. To have power over men even for a season is more desirable than having eternal life to many.

**48If we let him thus alone, all *men* will believe on him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation.**

There was a symbiotic relationship between the Romans and the Jewish leaders. As long as the Jewish leaders kept the people in line then all was well and they could have their little slice of the pie of power, but if it got out of hand for any reason, the Romans would eliminate them and replace them with someone who could control the Jewish people.

Their allegiance was to themselves and the power they had accumulated. God was a tool to be used to keep their own power and nothing else mattered. A savior was not needed to prolong their power a savior was an obstacle to overcome.

**49And one of them, *named* Caiaphas, being the**

**high priest that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all,**

Caiaphas was the High Priest from 18 to 36 AD, appointed by the Romans. He was a Sadducee a sect known for their collaboration with the Romans. The Sadducees also did not believe in the resurrection. Caiaphas had political and religious power being the High Priest.

Caiaphas's comment "**Ye know nothing at all,**" is thought to mean that a number of propositions had been put forward by the Sanhedrin and all of them in Caiaphas's intention missed the mark. Caiaphas was of the opinion we will see that it would be good for a single man to die than the entire nation of Israel be destroyed by the Romans.

**50Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not. 51And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation;**

Even though Caiaphas was not a prophet he projected that they could use Jesus and carry out two things. First get rid of this man Jesus and two, pacify the Romans.

**52And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad. 53Then from that day**



**forth they took counsel together for to put him to death.**

The basics of the plan had then be laid, that they would somehow cause the Romans to kill Jesus in their twisted minds to save the nation.

The Jewish leaders knew they could never put Jesus to death themselves as it was forbidden in Roman Law, that only the Government had the power of the death penalty. So, they would figure out a way to make Jesus a threat to the Roman Nation.

**54Jesus therefore walked no more openly among the Jews; but went thence unto a country near to the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and there continued with his disciples.**

**Q.** What could Jesus possible be afraid of?

Timing is important to God's plan. Satan as this is taking place is working in the minds of the Jewish leaders. Satan believes at this point in time that he can end this here and now by killing the heir, the Son of God.

Satan is not aware of the entire plan only that he has tried to interrupt the promised Messiah for centuries and has failed. He wants Jesus dead, but God's timing is critical and Jesus

knows that. So, to thwart any early attempts to kill Him Jesus simply stays hidden. There are prophecies that still need to be fulfilled as Jesus goes into hiding.

**55And the Jews' passover was nigh at hand: and many went out of the country up to Jerusalem before the passover, to purify themselves. 56Then sought they for Jesus, and spake among themselves, as they stood in the temple, What think ye, that he will not come to the feast? 57Now both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given a commandment, that, if any man knew where he were, he should shew *it*, that they might take him.**

God's timing, not ours.

At this point, Jesus was God's time clock on earth.

Everything that was going to change the world had to be done in a specific order at a specific time to fulfill prophecy.

Today, God's time clock on earth is this:

Israel is the hour hand, Jerusalem is the minute hand, and the temple mount is the second hand.

**All verses are copied from <https://biblehub.com/> in King James**