

Sermon

◆ **First Reading:** *Ezekiel 37: 12-14*

◆ **Second Reading:** *Romans 8:8-11*

◆ **Gospel:** *John 11:1-45 or 11;3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45*

1. So what would you do if you were called to witness the resuscitation of a dead person?? “die of fright”!!. One of the great questions that is often asked about this incident in the Gospel reading of to-day is Where was the soul of Lazarus during those 4 days as he lay dead in a tomb?? : EVEN after Jesus had brought him back to life, there’s no mention of anyone asking him “lazarus, tell us! What did u see? Did you get a glimpse of something eternal during those 4 days? What can we expect after our departure from this mortal life??..... age old questions !!!!

Where Lazarus is concerned, we better get it right

Jesus resuscitated his friend Lazarus, He did not grant him a glorious resurrection ; why was there a delay of 4 days?, don’t know!!

Lazarus, after his resuscitation, was granted a few more years of mortal life....

2. Jesus was the friend of Martha, her sister Mary, & their brother Lazarus.

Every day in public hospitals very sick people are resuscitated.... Wonders can be worked with modern medical technology!! So to be resuscitated is an every day event ; You may be able to resuscitate a person yourself who's had a serious seizure, with the kiss-of-life!!

But there's something that none of us can do, and that is to grant Resurrection to the soul of a person who dies in a state-of-grace, only God-HOLY-SPIRIT can do that!!, and HOW exactly that's done is of course God's sacred business. Jesus the Saviour is the Lord of Life & Death, He remains with us all during our mortal life, He is with us at the point of departure from this world, and will be there waiting for us on "the-other-side"..... the Saviour is the source of eternal life.....

3.How often do U & I reflect on our own resurrection??“but sure” says u “don't I have enough to deal with in this present convoluted world, bills have to be paid, the children have to be reared, and now with this corona virus, my job is not secure...etc..??” oh Yes! Our worldly concerns are perfectly valid, and so often we overlook our real purpose in this mortal life, which is to get ready as best we can for eternity with God.....

So what's the message?, what can we take home with us from this spellbinding incident where Jesus brings a dead-man back to life???

Very simply! Jesus remains as the Way, the Truth and the Life....may you & I allow Jesus to guide us on our way thru' this mortal life with all its joys, sorrows & contradictions ; He is the Truth, God is Truth, live by truth and the truth will set us free from the things that block the way from loving God completely, as we should!

4. He is the Life, it is in the Lord that we live and move and have our being.....as Jesus once said

“it is the Spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing, the flesh has nothing to offer..”

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