



Dead Friend

Pastor Joel DeSelm

John 11:1-6, 17, 18

1 Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. **2** This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair. **3** So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." **4** When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." **5** Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. **6** Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days. **17** On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. **18** Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem.

The Paradox in the Story

1. The Bible states that Jesus _____ Lazarus and his sisters.

2. The Bible also tells us that Jesus purposely _____.

Deuteronomy 29:29

The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law.

Isaiah 55:8-13

8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. **9** "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. **10** As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, **11** so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to Me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. **12** You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. **13** Instead of the thornbush will grow the pine tree, and instead of briers the myrtle will grow. This will be for the LORD's renown, for an everlasting sign, which will not be destroyed."

The Principles from Scripture

1. The Bible tells us that God's ways are not _____.

2. For those who wait _____ for God to accomplish His purposes, there is a future joy, peace, and celebration.