

Matthew 28:18-20

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ *teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.* And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Key Idea

Jesus is the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in him, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in him shall never die. *Do you believe this?*

John 11:25-26
Do You Want to Live Forever?
April 4, 2010
Sermon Outline

Notes

I. Introduction

- A. Lair, Lunatic or Lord
- B. What do we live for? What would make life unbearable if it were taken away?

Key Idea

True life/eternal life is found through the trust of one person. God sent Jesus to defeat death itself.

II. Jesus has a Better Plan for Us (John 11:1-44)

- A. Jesus Loved Martha, Mary & Lazarus

John 11:5-7, 11-15

⁵ Now *Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.* ⁶ **So**, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

- B. Jesus Loved His Disciples

John 11:5-7, 11-15

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” ...¹¹ ... “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.” ¹² The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” ¹³ Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died, ¹⁵ and *for your sake* I am glad that I was not there, **so that** you may believe. But let us go to him.”

(Cf. 1 Peter 1:6-7)

God is more interested in your character than your comfort; God is more interested in making your life holy than He is in making your life happy.

– Rick Warren

III. Moving Us from the Theoretical to the Personal

John 11:17-27

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.... ²¹ **Martha** said to Jesus, “*Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.*” ²² *But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.*” ²³ **Jesus** said to her, “*Your brother will rise again.*” ²⁴ **Martha** said to him, “*I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.*” ²⁵ **Jesus** said to her, “***I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?***” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

IV. Jesus/God is Emotionally Engaged

A. Jesus’ Love is Personal

John 11:32-37

³² Now when **Mary** came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, “*Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.*” ³³ When **Jesus** saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, ***he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.*** ³⁴ And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ **Jesus wept.**

B. God’s Love is Often Confusing to Us

John 11:32-37

³⁶ So the Jews said, “*See how he loved him!*” ³⁷ **But** some of them said, “*Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?*”

V. Behold the Glory of God!

A. Death is no Obstacle to the Creator

John 11:38-44

³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would **see the glory of God?**” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, ***that they may believe that you sent me.***” ⁴³ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “**Lazarus, come out.**” ⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

B. The Resurrection of Lazarus is not the Main Point

1. Jesus offers us life that is truly life

1 Timothy 6:17-19

¹⁷ As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may *take hold of* that which is ***truly life.***

2. A call to repentance/discipleship

“We need to repent not only of our bad things, but also for the reason we did our good things.”

– Timothy Keller