

LAZARUS ARISE!

Jeremiah 30:17 For I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal, declares the LORD, because they have called you an outcast:

WHO ARE THE LAZARUSES ?

Out of graves in the inner city and on campus, the Lazarus generation will rise. Today they are in gangs, on drugs, or screaming for leftist revolution. Then, in a way no man can take credit for, they will be struck by the resurrection power of Christ. Tomorrow they will be baptized in the Holy Spirit and will operate in frightening zeal...The Lazarus generation will find church—as we know it today—unbearable.

WHO IS THIS PROPHETIC PEOPLE TO RAISE UP THE LAZARUSES?

The prophetic core wanders, feeling outside the mainstream. They have been ostracized for wanting revival. They have been punished for not getting with the slick programs. They have huddled together to pray and compare notes. They are starved for the fire, glory, and presence of God. They feel helpless and forgotten, but in their weakness, they are being made strong. At the moment of power, the day of God's power, these groups will collide. The core that yearns for revival doesn't know they are being forged to be the fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters of resurrected youth. ... Only this radical core will understand from their own brokenness how to "loose them and let them go."

John 11:1–6 (ESV)

1 Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. **3** So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." **4** But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." 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.

John 11:11–17 (ESV)

11 After saying these things, he said to them, "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." ...17 Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

Ephesians 2:1–6 (NLT)

1 Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. **2** You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. **3** All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else. 4 But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, 5 that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) **6** For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.

John 11:20–25

20 So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. **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... 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.

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."

• Joshua 5:6–9 (ESV) — 6 For the people of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, the men of war who came out of Egypt, perished, because they did not obey the voice of the LORD; the LORD swore to them that he would not let them see the land that the LORD had sworn to their fathers to give to us, a land flowing with milk and honey. 7 So it was their children, whom he raised up in their place, that Joshua circumcised. For they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way. 8 When the circumcising of the whole nation was finished, they remained in their places in the camp until they were healed. **9** And the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." And so the name of that place is called Gilgal to this day.

John 11:38–44

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"Unbind him and let him go" John 11:44

1.<u>Unbind</u>: to loose any person (or thing) tied or fastened

- A. to loose one bound, i.e. to unbind, release from bonds, set free
- i. bound with chains (a prisoner), discharge from prison, let go
 B.to loosen, undo, dissolve, anything bound, tied, or compacted
 together
 - i. laws, as having a binding force, are likened to bonds
 - ii. to annul, subvert ; to do away with, to deprive of authority, whether by precept or act; to declare unlawful
 - iii. to break up, demolish, destroy
 - iv. metaph., to overthrow, to do away with
- 2. Let Him Go: to change location and to proceed; to move along

WE SHARE THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TO THE LAZARUSES

Luke 4:18 (TPT)

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, and he has anointed me to be hope for the poor, freedom for the brokenhearted, and new eyes for the blind, and to preach to prisoners, 'You are set free!' I have come to share the message of Jubilee, for the time of God's great acceptance has begun."

John 14:12 (NLT)

"I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father.

CALLING FORTH YOUR LAZARUS

- **1.** *Recognize* the ones Jesus is calling
- 2. **PRAY** FOR THOSE STILL BOUND-UP AND SPIRITUALLY DEAD
- **3**. **ROLL AWAY THE STONE** OF THE SHAME, GUILT AND REPROACH OF THE PAST
- 4. UNBIND THEM AND LET THEM GO AND FULFILL GOD'S PLAN

GO FIND YOUR LAZARUS

