

PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

August 7, 2022

I AM the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:17-27)

We continue our series on the seven great "I AM" statements in the gospel of John. Today we will be looking at "I AM the Resurrection and the Life" from **John 11:17-27**. Of all the "I AM" statements, this is the only one that occurs within a one-on-one conversation. The conversation is with Martha, the sister of Mary and Lazarus. What Jesus has to say to Martha is much bigger than just His raising of Lazarus from the dead. Let's explore this conversation between Jesus and Martha together this morning.

D_____ (23-24) - Martha interpreted Jesus' promise that her brother would rise again in terms of the expectation of a general resurrection. Her faith was ultimately in this teaching which was held by the Pharisees.

Now, before we move on, it must be emphasized that doctrine (teaching) is a GOOD thing. Today it is pretty common to hear teachers and preachers bashing the concept of doctrine, however scripture tells us that having the proper doctrine is critically important. This is especially true of Paul's letters (**Rom 16:17; 1 Timothy 1:3; 4:6; 6:3-5; Titus 1:9; 2:1**).

D_____ (25-26) - When Jesus says, "I AM the resurrection and the life," He is contrasting a belief or faith in a doctrine with a belief in a Person (Jesus). Martha's faith was in the teaching regarding the resurrection, but Jesus wanted her to put her faith in Him. He was telling her that her faith was pointing in the wrong direction.

No matter how important doctrine is, it is MEANINGLESS without faith in a Savior. If our faith is in doctrine or teaching rather than the Messiah, then it is pointing in the wrong direction, and is essentially us putting our faith in ourselves and our ability to follow the doctrine.

Where is our faith? Is our faith in doctrine or teaching or is our faith in the Savior? It is easy to get so bogged down in the intricacies of doctrine that we lose our focus on the Savior. This is a key component of all of the I AM statements in John.

Blessed
ARE THOSE WHO HAVE NOT
seen Him
AND YET
believe

JOHN 20:29

"Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, and your Glory above all the earth"

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A PRAYER FOR YOU IS SAID TODAY
MAY THE LOVE OF GOD
EVER WITH YOU STAY
WHEREVER YOU ARE,
WHATEVER YOU DO,
MAY THE BLESSING OF GOD
EVER REST ON YOU
AND IN THE YEARS
THAT ARE STILL TO COME
MAY THE PEACE OF GOD
BE IN YOUR HOME
AND GOD'S GREAT LOVE
ABIDE WITH YOU

D_____ (25-26) - In this I AM statement, Jesus is again claiming to be God, a truth He promptly proved by raising Lazarus. Jesus had claimed divinity as Light of the world, the Good Shepherd, the giver of eternal life, the door of the sheep, as existing before Abraham was born, and in numerous other ways in the gospel of John. Here He appeared as Resurrection come in the flesh. Many opponents of scripture will say that Jesus never claimed to be the Son of God, however in all of these "I AM" statements He is clearly claiming to be God as evidenced by what He says next.

D_____ (25-26) - Finally, in this statement, Jesus is explaining that the one who believes in Christ has eternal life that transcends physical death. Jesus' words are amplified by Paul's statement:

*1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 (ESV) - For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will **always** be with the Lord.*

This means far more than an assertion of Jesus' power to raise Lazarus, extending to all the dead who ever lived. This is what is meant by "shall never die". The Lord has not abolished the significance of physical death, having made it a beginning instead of an end.

D_____ (26-27) - Martha proclaims Jesus to be "the Christ". The Greek word here, Christos, translates the Hebrew title mashiach, meaning "anointed one." Martha's declaration reveals a firm belief that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God, as preached by John the Baptist in John 1:34 and echoed by Nathanael (**John 1:49**) and Peter (**John 6:68-69**).

PRAYER LIST

- **Maria Hunter Harrington**, a friend of the Billingsleys, has breast cancer
- **Tommy Shearer**, who spoke here in June, lost a leg in a motorcycle accident
- **Doug Demonbreun** is still dealing with pain
- **Forshia Pennington, Carolyn Pennington** and **Judy Grissom**, relatives of the Reeds, have breast cancer. **Vicki Reed** has been diagnosed with Myeloma as well
- **Faye Waller** is at NHC rehab after elbow surgery
- **Rebecca Brown's** great-granddaughter passed away
- **Donna Rawls Head** has cancer
- Continue to pray for: families in **Uvalde, Texas** and those in **Ukraine; Kristine Garrett, Delores Coleman**, the **Krantz** family, **John Hayes, Nick Phifer, Gaynell Walker, Rosemary Douglas, Isabel Johnson**, and **Jim Sims**

SERVING TODAY (July 31, 2022)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Read: C. Baker
Prayer: M. Reed

WORSHIP

Read: E. Walker
Wait On Table: J. Baker
Serve: J. Demonbreun, J. Walker
Prayer: R. Mayo