



## YOUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL!

What God says about what you say

IN Favor video teaching series

### #12c. A follow up to “JESUS SPEAKS TO THE DEAD” – ARE OUR WORDS IN THE WAY?

*John 11:1 Now a man named Lazarus was sick ...<sup>4</sup> 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." ...<sup>7</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."<sup>8</sup> "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?" ...<sup>14</sup> Then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead,<sup>15</sup> and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."<sup>16</sup> Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."*



But when Jesus told them it was time to go, Thomas (the human realist) voiced for all the disciples the sense of hopelessness they felt in the projected journey. Even though the Lord of life had been their companion, they did not understand that reality. They could only think about their dreadful circumstances. As with many people today, human problems crowd out the sense of the divine presence, and as a result hopelessness can reign even in the company of God's people.<sup>NAC</sup>

*Despondency and devotion* (to Jesus) mark the man (cf. 11:16; 14:5; and 20:24–28). He is ever afraid that he may lose his beloved Master, or that some evil will befall the latter. He expects evil, and cannot believe the good when it occurs.<sup>NTC</sup>

*John 11:20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him ...<sup>21</sup> "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died."<sup>22</sup> But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."<sup>24</sup> Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;<sup>26</sup> and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"<sup>27</sup> "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."<sup>28</sup> After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary ...<sup>32</sup> When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."*



Martha did not realize, understand, or dare to hope that Jesus would ask God to give Lazarus back his physical life and be returned to his family ... At face value, Jesus' statement did little to console Martha, for she already knew that Lazarus would rise again in the resurrection and live eternally with God, just as she and Mary would when they died. At this point, resurrection was only a future, abstract concept to Martha, not a possible, immediate reality in Christ. But Jesus did not mean an eventual, distant resurrection, he meant that Lazarus would rise again that very day!<sup>LABC</sup>

THINK ABOUT IT ...



Website: [infavorresources.com](http://infavorresources.com) Facebook: [facebook.com/infavorresources](https://facebook.com/infavorresources)  
YouTube channel: IN Favor Resources Email: [infavorresources@gmail.com](mailto:infavorresources@gmail.com)

Copyright Dr. Jim Taylor Jr. IN Favor Resources LLC  
This material not to be used without permission