

# The Life and Mission of Jesus Christ on Earth

Lesson Thirty-four -- John 11:1-54

## Summary of Lesson

In our last lesson we studied the sixteenth chapter and down through verse ten of the seventeenth chapter of the gospel according to Luke. Verse eleven of the seventeenth chapter of Luke is obviously a change of scene from what went before, and it is evident that something occurred to get Jesus from Perea (where He was in previous lessons) and over into Judea and then up into Samaria and Galilee. Probably, at the end of verse ten of the seventeenth chapter of Luke, Jesus left Perea when He learned of the death of Lazarus, crossed the Jordan river, came back into Judea to the home of Martha and Mary (and Lazarus) in Bethany, which was just a short distance from Jerusalem. While in Bethany He raised Lazarus from the dead -- a miracle which the rulers of the Jews could not refute, but, rather than admit its obvious implication that Jesus was the Christ, they instead took counsel together to put Him to death. Because of this new threat to His life, Jesus fled to a wilderness area near the city of Ephraim (north of Jerusalem) where He continued teaching His disciples. This would put Him into the area where Luke 17:11 has Him, and in our next lesson we will begin there. Be sure to locate Perea, the Jordan river, Bethany, Jerusalem, Ephraim, Samaria and Galilee on your maps of Palestine.

## John 11:1-54

{1} Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. {2} It was that Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. {3} Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick." {4} When Jesus heard that, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, 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 he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was. {7} Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." {8} The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?" {9} Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. {10} "But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." {11} These things He said, and after that He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up." {12} Then His disciples said, "Lord, if he sleeps he will get well." {13} However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest

in sleep. {14} Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. {15} "And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him." {16} Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him." {17} So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days. {18} Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. {19} And many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother. {20} Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. {21} Then 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 of 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 at the last day." {25} Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. {26} "And whoever 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 to come into the world." {28} And when she had said these things, she

went her way and secretly called Mary her sister, saying, "The Teacher has come and is calling for you." {29} As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly and came to Him. {30} Now Jesus had not yet come into the town, but was in the place where Martha met Him. {31} Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there." {32} Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." {33} Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. {34} And He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." {35} Jesus wept. {36} Then the Jews said, "See how He loved him!" {37} And some of them said, "Could not this Man, who opened the eyes of the blind, also have kept this man from dying?" {38} Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, 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 him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days." {40} Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" {41} Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. {42} "And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me." {43} Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" {44} And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go." {45} Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him. {46} But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them the things Jesus did. {47} Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we

do? For this Man works many signs. {48} "If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation." {49} And one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, {50} "nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish." {51} Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, {52} and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad. {53} Then, from that day on, they plotted to put Him to death. {54} Therefore Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there into the country near the wilderness, to a city called Ephraim, and there remained with His disciples.

## Questions on Lesson Thirty-four

1. Why did Jesus say He was glad that He was not present to heal Lazarus before he died?
2. What claim did Jesus make for Himself in this chapter? How did He prove it to be true?
3. Who was the high priest at this time (John 11)?
4. What was the obvious implication of the miracle performed by Jesus in raising Lazarus from the dead?
5. Lazarus was the brother of whom?
6. What did Thomas infer by his statement, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."?
7. When Mary suddenly arose to go and meet Jesus, where did her friends think she was going?
8. To where did Jesus flee when He left Bethany?
9. Did the Jewish council deny that Jesus had the power to perform miracles?
10. Jesus stated that the sickness of Lazarus would serve what purpose?
11. When Jesus promised Martha that Lazarus should live again, what did Martha think Jesus meant?
12. Some of the witnesses of the resurrection of Lazarus immediately went to report it to whom?
13. After hearing of the sickness of Lazarus, how long did Jesus wait before leaving for Bethany?
14. What do you think might be the possible significance of the statements that Jesus "groaned in the spirit, and was troubled" and "Jesus wept"?
15. What did the high priest predict concerning Jesus?
16. Why were the disciples of Jesus reluctant for Him to return to Judea?
17. When Jesus arrived in Bethany, how long had Lazarus been dead?
18. Why did Jesus say He was thankful that the Father had heard Him?
19. How far was Bethany from Jerusalem?