

**WHEN GOD**  
**Pt. 3 - When God is Late**  
Pastor Vernie Fletcher  
September 2nd, 2012

**Why doesn't God  
do something about that?**

**Inattentive  
Uncooperative  
Late**

**John 11:1-45 (NIV)**

<sup>[1]</sup> Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

<sup>[2]</sup> This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.

<sup>[3]</sup> So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

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<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>[5]</sup> Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

<sup>[6]</sup> Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days.

<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 tried to stone you, and yet you are going back there?"

<sup>[9]</sup> Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight?"

<sup>[10]</sup> It is when he walks by night that he stumbles, for he has no light."

<sup>[11]</sup> After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

[12] His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better."

[13] Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

[14] So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead,

[15] and for your sake I am glad I was not there, **so that** you may believe. But let us go to him."

[16] Then Thomas (called Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

[17] On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

[18] Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem,

[19] and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother.

[20] When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

[21] "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

[22] But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

[23] Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

[24] Martha answered, "I know 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 will live, even though he dies;

[26] and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?"

[27] "Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."

[33] When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled.

[34] "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied.

[35] Jesus wept.

[36] Then 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 have kept this man from dying?"

[38] Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance.

[39] "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

[40] Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the **glory** of God?"

[41] So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me.

[42] I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may **believe** that you sent me."

[43] When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

[44] The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

[45] Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, put their faith in him.

**Why doesn't God  
do something about that?**

**He Can  
Sometimes He waits  
We can TRUST Him in the meantime**

**John 11:40 (NIV)**

<sup>[40]</sup> Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

**Inattentive  
Uncooperative  
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