

The Gospel of John

PART 20

John 11— Feeling Good About A Feeling God

THE SEVENTH SIGN

WHAT

Raising Lazarus from the dead

WHERE

Bethany, three miles outside Jerusalem

WHEN

One week before Passover/Christ's Crucifixion

WHY

Prefigures Jesus' death and resurrection; for God's glory

KNOWING JESUS

1

WE LEARN THAT
JESUS WORKS AT AN
UNHURRIED PACE.

JOHN 11:6-7

"So when Jesus heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, then he went..."

WHY THE DELAY?



Jesus foreknew that Lazarus death would be a gateway to his glory and an undeniable authentication of his deity.

LESSON LEARNED



Jesus moves according to his time, not mine, leveraging my circumstances as a set-up for the revelation of his glory.

KNOWING JESUS

2

WE LEARN THAT
JESUS WORKS IN
UNLIMITED POWER.

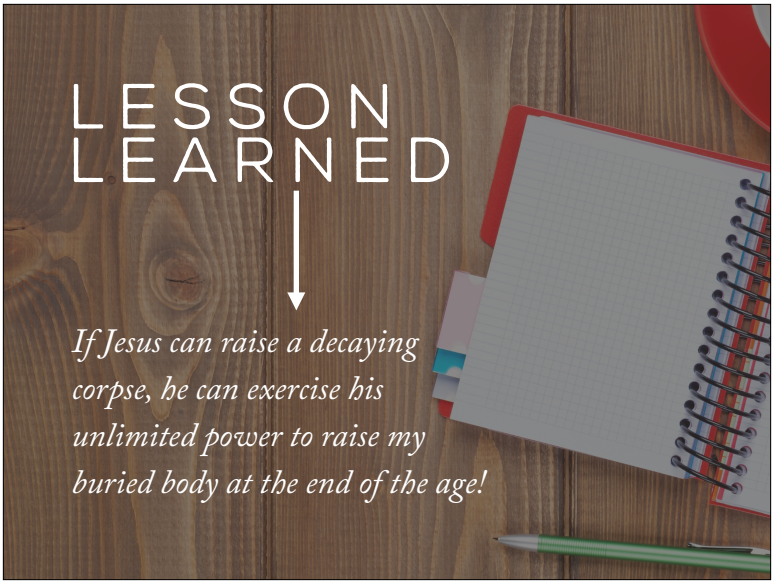
JOHN 11:17

“On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.”

LESSON LEARNED



If Jesus can raise a decaying corpse, he can exercise his unlimited power to raise my buried body at the end of the age!



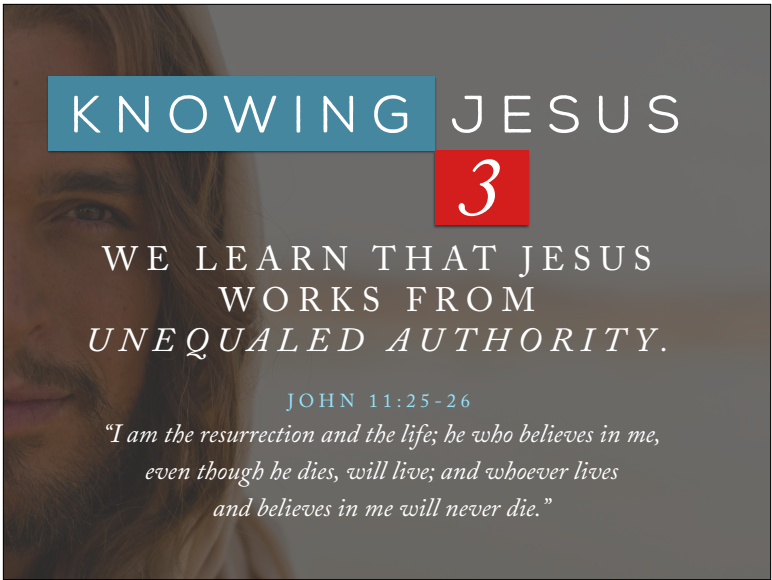
KNOWING JESUS

3

WE LEARN THAT JESUS WORKS FROM UNEQUALED AUTHORITY.

JOHN 11:25-26

"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, even though he dies, will live; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."



LESSON LEARNED



Jesus came, died and arose so that I, by believing, could experience resurrection life.



KNOWING JESUS

4

WE LEARN THAT JESUS
WORKS WITH
UNINHIBITED EMOTION.

JOHN 11:33-36

"When Jesus saw Mary weeping and the other people wailing, a deep anger welled up within him, and he was deeply troubled. "Where have you put him?" he asked them. They told him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept. The people who were standing nearby said, "See how much he loved him!"

JESUS' INCARNATIONAL PURPOSE

TO LIVE AMONG US

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us."
JOHN 1:14

TO BRING GOD CLOSE TO US

"He will be called Immanuel" (which means "God with us")."
MATTHEW 1:23

TO REVEAL WHO GOD IS AND WHAT GOD IS LIKE TO US:

"The Son is the image of the invisible God." COLOSSIANS 1:15

TO RESTORE US TO GOD:

"God has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation." COLOSSIANS 1:22

THE EMOTIONAL GOD

JESUS GOT *Angry*

JOHN 11:33,38

"When Jesus saw Mary weeping and the other people wailing, a deep anger welled up within him, and he was deeply troubled... Jesus was still angry as he arrived at the tomb."

Why Anger?

Jesus loved **righteousness**

—the uninterrupted flow and
uncontainable overflow of God's
Kingdom in people.

When righteousness got
diverted or dammed up, Jesus
stayed good but got angry.

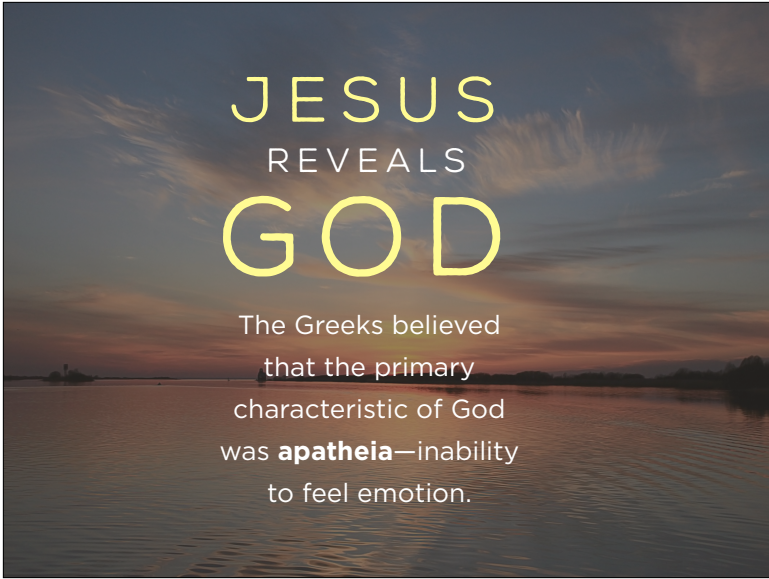
THE **EMOTIONAL** GOD

JESUS EXPRESSED Sorrow

JOHN 11:35
"Jesus wept."

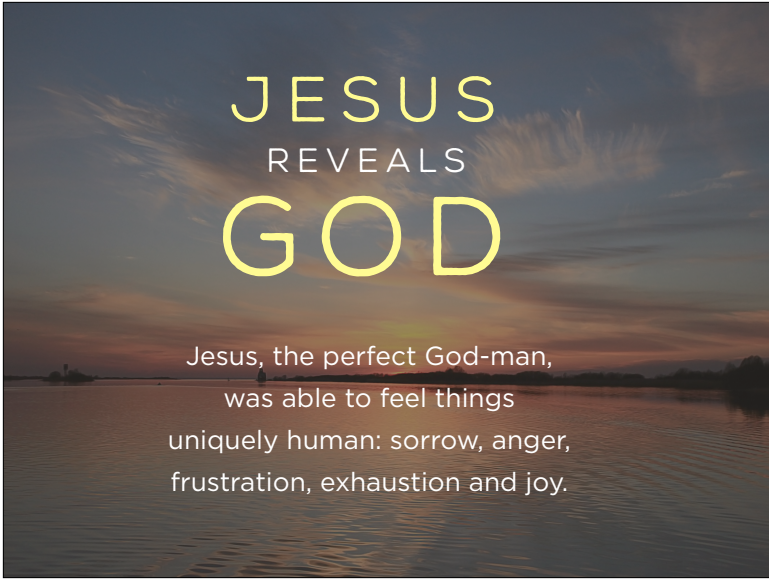
Why Sorrow?

Jesus tears flowed out of both
grief for Lazarus' sisters as well
as **anger** over what sin had
done to his friend.



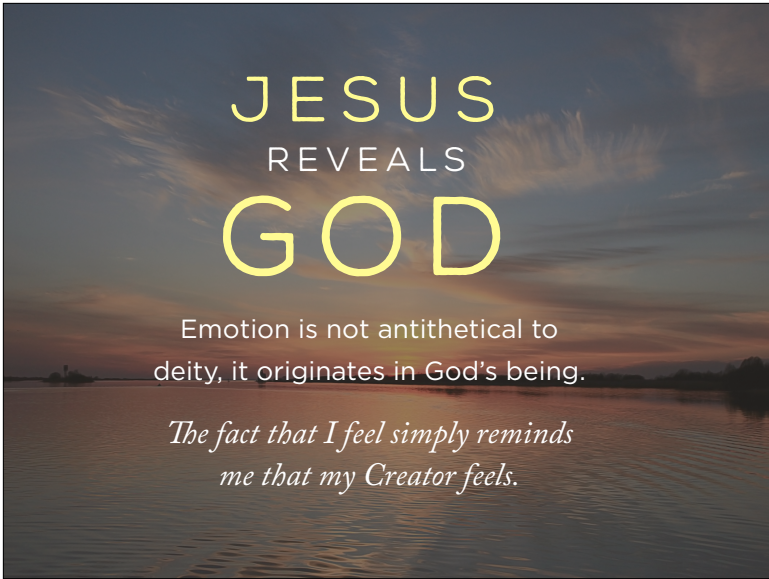
JESUS REVEALS GOD

The Greeks believed that the primary characteristic of God was **apatheia**—inability to feel emotion.



JESUS REVEALS GOD

Jesus, the perfect God-man, was able to feel things uniquely human: sorrow, anger, frustration, exhaustion and joy.



JESUS REVEALS GOD

Emotion is not antithetical to deity, it originates in God's being.

The fact that I feel simply reminds me that my Creator feels.

A CARING, COMPASSIONATE GOD

God the Father feels

ZEPHANIAH 3:17

God the Son feels

JOHN 11, MT. 15:16, MARK 14:34, LUKE 10:21

God the Holy Spirit feels

EPHESIANS 4:30, GALATIANS 6:8

Jesus' emotions give him an unfettered capacity to relate to my feelings, which should give me unfettered confidence to come before a caring God to express my feelings.

HEBREWS 4:14-15

"This High Priest understands our weaknesses, for he faced all the testings we do, yet he didn't sin. So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and find grace to help us when we need it most."

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD IN THE
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