

JESUS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE John 11:25-26

The Voice that Awakes the Dead

Introduction:

Bill Turner

1. Job asked a universal question... one any thinking person has wondered about...
‘If a man dies will he live again?’ (Job 14:14)
2. Even atheists can’t escape this question... The well known physicist and cosmologist Stephen Hawking was asked about it not long before he died.
 - a. Shortly after his death an article in U.K. Guardian explained why he wouldn't be in heaven.
"For him, there absolutely is no god, no heaven, and definitely no afterlife. ‘I regard the brain as a computer which will stop working when its components fail,’ Stephen Hawking told the U.K. Guardian newspaper. ‘There is no heaven or afterlife for broken down computers; that is a fairy story for people afraid of the dark.’”¹
3. **FIRST:** How interesting that Hawking compared the brain to a computer whose components had failed...
 - a. Did you know that computers and components did not make themselves?
 - b. Computers were designed and Created with Intelligence.
 - c. It’s called Computer Architecture because they were designed by an architect.
 - d. Software is code because it is intelligent language coded by engineers.
4. **SECOND:** He said: Heaven or after-life is a fairy tale for people afraid of the dark.
 - a. REALLY? Why would anyone invent a God more terrifying than the Dark they’re afraid of?
 - b. We are afraid of the dark—so we invent a God who banishes the wicked into
ETERNAL DARKNESS
 - c. A God more terrifying than the Dark we’re afraid of — Because We Are Afraid of the Dark!
5. Job asked ‘If a man dies will he live again?’ and was given the answer
(Job 19:25-27) Confirmed when God Himself appeared to Job in a Whirlwind

The Redeemer Job prophesied of came to earth in human form... His name is Jesus

I. THE RESURRECTION

A. JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION (John 11:17–27)

1. Lazarus and his sisters Mary and Martha were close friends of Jesus
 - a) Jesus stayed in there home, ate at their table, knew them as friends
 - b) But Lazarus has been chosen for a part in God’s divine plan
2. **Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life (11:25)**
 - a) Those who Believe in Jesus—Even If They Die they Will Live
 - b) And whoever lives and believes in Jesus shall never die.
3. **Do you believe this?**
 - a) Do You Believe the Implications of What Jesus is Saying?

¹ <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2011/may/15/stephen-hawking-interview-there-is-no-heaven>

B. JESUS DID NOT JUST CLAIM IT—HE PROVED IT (John 11:32–45)

1. Jesus Called Lazarus from the Dead by Name...

- a) He Knew Lazarus Personally...
- b) He knows us personally
- c) And Our Faith Must be in Him Personally

2. Then He Told Those There — Loose Him and Let Him Go

- a) Lazarus would not be needing his grave clothes anymore
- b) And When We Have Life in Christ—We Don't Need Our Grave Clothes Anymore

3. When Jesus Speaks—His Voice Brings Life

C. JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION...

1. Upon His Death on the Cross—the Graves of many saints were Opened...

(Matthew 27:50–52a)

2. Upon His Resurrection from the Dead—the bodies of those saints rose from the dead! (Matthew 27:52–53)

3. Jesus is the Resurrection AND He is the Life

II. THE LIFE

A. JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE (Jn 11:25–26)

- 1. Jesus Will Raise the Dead at the Resurrection**
- 2. But He Also Gives Spiritual Life to the Dead today!**

B. SOME PEOPLE ARE EXISTING BUT NOT LIVING

- 1. During the Covid Lockdowns in 2020 the CDC did a survey and found that one in 4 teenagers had considered suicide in the month before.**
- 2. In San Fransisco More People Died of Fentanyl Overdoses than Died of COVID-19 Even During the worse surge of the Pandemic.**
- 3. Depression rates have gotten worse—especially with young people**
- 4. Many are existing but not actually living...**
- 5. Many are Living but Not actually ALIVE**
- 6. Many Physically alive but emotionally and spiritually dying**

C. JESUS GIVES LIFE BECAUSE HE IS THE LIFE

- 1. This is Why Jesus Went to the Cross—to Bring Life to the Dead**
- 2. We were Dead in Sin—but Now We are Alive in Christ (Ephesians 2:4–7)**

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.” (John 5:24)

III. THE IMPLICATIONS

A. EVEN ONE BACK FROM THE DEAD IS NOT ENOUGH FOR SOME

1. **They Saw the Same Evidence with their own eyes...**
 - a) They saw Lazarus had been dead four days...
 - b) They Saw Jesus Call Lazarus from the Grave and he emerged still in grave clothes
 - c) They Saw Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead with their own eyes...
2. **but because of their internalized worldview ideology—they had a very different interpretation of the evidence. (John 11:45–48, 53)**
 - a) They Even Wanted to Kill Lazarus to destroy the evidence! (John 12:9–11)
3. **Jesus raised a man back to life who had been dead for 4 days...**

But even that's not enough for those who don't want to accept Jesus.

- a) **Like the rich man stepping over Lazarus at his gate, dogs licking his sores**
 - (1) Lazarus died and was carried to Abraham's Bosom
 - (2) The Rich man died and opened his eyes in torment...
 - (3) And Still trying to Boss Lazarus Around (Bring me water, Go to my brothers)
- b) **WOW You Still Don't Get It? You Had a Lifetime to be a Narcissist—Your Done**
 - (1) There's a Gulf You Can't Cross: You Made Your Choice how you lived your life
- c) **Well Send Someone Back to tell my Brothers...**
 - (1) They Have Moses and the Prophets, Let them listen to the Truth
 - (2) BUT NO, If You Send someone back from the dead, THEN they'll believe.
- d) **Abraham said, IF THEY WON'T LISTEN TO MOSES AND THE PROPHETS, THEN THEY STILL WOULDN'T BELIEVE EVEN IF SOMEONE CAME BACK FROM THE DEAD**

—> **Jesus Brought Lazarus back from the Dead Some Still Wouldn't Believe**

—> **JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD AND SOME STILL WON'T BELIEVE**

B. JESUS WEPT (John 11:32–37)

This is one of the most touching and profound statements in all the Bible

1. **Twice it says Jesus Groaned within Himself...**
 - a) The Greek word means to be deeply moved in spirit
 - b) In ordinary classical Greek, the usual usage of this word is of a horse snorting.
 - c) Here, it must mean that such deep emotion seized Jesus that an involuntary groan was wrung from his heart. (Barclay)
2. **Twice we read that Jesus wept...**
 - a) He wept over Jerusalem and He wept here at the grave of Lazarus
 - b) So deeply did Jesus enter into human sorrows that his heart was wrung with anguish. (Barclay)
3. **The Ancient Greeks Believed God Felt No Emotion whatsoever, because to feel emotion is to sympathize with others which they believed allowed others to Effect us in a way that gave them power over us**

- a) In Other Words: To Weep with those who weep steals our Happiness...
- b) So the Stoics turned the Heart into a Stone and then Called it Happiness

4. **Jesus Wept... He Cares and Even Sorrows unto Grieving for you and I**

C. JESUS ABOLISHED DEATH AND GIVES IMMORTALITY (2 Timothy 1:10)

1. **The Work of Jesus At the Cross was for the Forgiveness of Sin...**

But Also to Abolish Death and Give Immortality to Your Soul

- a) **DEATH IS AN ENEMY—BUT IN CHRIST IT IS A VICTORY**
- b) **DEATH IS THE END OF LIFE—BUT IN CHRIST THE BEGINNING OF NEW LIFE**
- c) **DEATH IS A DARK DOOR—BUT IN CHRIST IT OPENS TO BRIGHTEST LIGHT**
- d) **DEATH IS AN INTRUDER—BUT IN CHRIST WE HAVE LIFE THAT CANNOT BE TAKEN FROM US**
- e) **DEATH IS MORTALITY—BUT IN CHRIST WE HAVE IMMORTALITY**

²¹ For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15:21-22)

2. **EXAMPLE: I Heard about two funerals a few years back.**

Both were elderly women. Both died of cancer.

- a) One was a believer who looked forward to heaven and spoke of it regularly.
Her funeral was filled with hope and songs like 'Amazing Grace'
- b) The other was of a unbeliever. There was no mention of God.
No hope of what is to come.
Her parting song was Frank Sinatra's 'I did it my way'.
- c) I Did It MY Way — How about the Lord's way?

A wise king once said 'There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.'

CONCLUSION:

1. **If a Man Dies Shall He Live Again? —YES!**
2. **Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25)**
3. **Those Who Die in Christ are More Alive Than they've Ever Been**