

*Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for November 12-13, 2005**

**"Lazarus, Come Forth"**

**John 11:38-44**

The preparation for the miracle (John 11:1-16).

The arrival of Jesus and His disciples in Bethany (John 11:17-37).

The raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11:38-44).

Jesus was angry with death in John 11:33 and He was once again angry with death in John 11:38.

Death is an enemy of Christ and He is not indifferent toward it nor is He unmoved by all of the havoc that it creates (1 Corinthians 15:20-26).

In light of Martha's protest in John 11:39, we are forced to conclude that she had not yet come to the place where she fully understood the implications of what she believed.

What Jesus told Martha in John 11:40 was simply a summary of John 11:21-27.

The point that Christ made to Martha in John 11:40 was that though the crowd would very shortly see a miracle, only believers would see the glory of God.

Jesus, even before He approached the tomb, had already petitioned His Father and knew that it was His Father's will that Lazarus be raised from the dead (John 11:41).

Jesus prayed His prayer of thanksgiving publicly at the tomb in order to minister to the people who were there with Him (John 11:42).

When Christ cried out with a loud voice "Lazarus, come forth," it was a shout of raw authority.

The best explanation of how Lazarus was able to exit the tomb was that his bindings were not all that restrictive.

If the body of Lazarus had been prepared for burial in a typical Jewish way, he would not have been able to walk, but he could have hopped or shuffled.

May we, as the disciples of Christ, be free from the fear of death, whether that fear is physical or spiritual, knowing that God has given us the victory through His Son the Lord Jesus Christ.