

John 11¹⁷⁻²⁷

When grief & hope encounter Jesus



Martha's conversation with Jesus concerning Lazarus

Children's talk: The problem with putting people in a box

Introduction

There's more to Thomas

There's more to Martha & Mary

Martha's meeting with Jesus in private (11¹⁷⁻²⁴)

Grief & hope in turmoil & tension

Grief & hope look to the resurrection

Jesus' manifestation of Himself to Martha (11²⁵⁻²⁶)

"I AM the resurrection & the life"

Is this the most profound declaration?

Martha's magnificent confession of faith (11²⁷)

"You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world"

Is this the most profound declaration?

Conclusion

There's more for you

There's more from you



Questions answered

- What is the problem with putting dead people in a box?
What is the problem with putting live people in a box?
- How does the portrayal of Martha in this passage differ from the common stereotype of her being distant & distracted from Jesus?
- What evidence of grief do you see in Martha?
What evidence of hope do you see in Martha?
How do these seem to be in turmoil & tension within her?
- What was ambiguous about Jesus' reference to raising Lazarus?
Why do you think He spoke this way?
- What is so significant about Jesus' statement concerning the resurrection?
- To whom does Jesus make this statement?
Why do you think this is so?
How did He extend this to everyone else?
- What was Martha's confession of faith in Jesus?
How did this differ from Peter's confession of faith?
- What is significant about Martha being the one to make this confession of faith in Jesus?
- How does this reveal Jesus's affirmation of both male and female amidst making distinction between them?



Somethings to pray about (and follow through with)

- When we feel in turmoil and tension with both grief & hope, how can this passage help us?
Where do you think Jesus would want to take our thinking?
- To what extent do I see the resurrection as primarily a person before it is an event?
How can this help me be better prepared for the event itself?