

## John 11:39-40

*Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"*

I think one of the hardest things to do as Christians is to trust in God. It's funny how we have written on our money "In God we trust" yet we put more trust in the money than in God.

Take today's devotional verses as an example. Here is Lazarus who died four days ago, and Jesus comes on the scene and speaks with Lazarus' sister, Martha, and tells her to trust or believe in Him. She says she would, but as soon as Jesus told the people to do something that sounded crazy, like rolling the stone away from the tomb of a dead man who has been there for four days, Martha starts to question the Lord. *"Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."*

Jesus then had to remind her of their conversation that took place, possibly minutes ago.

† *Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"*

We all know the end of the story as the stone is rolled away and the Lord brings Lazarus back to life after being dead for four days.

So, let's make this more personal and ask, What would we do in this situation? I think our answer would be, *"Oh, I would believe Jesus and not question Him."* But would we really? If we believe that God can raise the dead, then why do we question Him on little things like money, or our job, or our marriage or \_\_\_\_\_? Are we really thinking that God can raise the dead, but He can't fix our problems? We even quote this famous verse, yet still doubt God can do it through us or even without our help.

† **Philippians 4:13** *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

But sometimes God will ask us to do something that sounds crazy, maybe not go to a graveyard, and remove gravestones. But what if God asked us to quit our job, with no other job in site, would we do it? We could say yes, then start to think about all our responsibilities to our family and creditors. Would we soon start to doubt God because it sounded too crazy?

What Jesus told the people to do sounded crazy to Martha, but if she wasn't obedient, I wonder if Lazarus would have stayed there in that tomb?

Sometimes we don't understand why God does or allows things in our lives, and some of the stuff we know the Lord wants us to do, do sound crazy. But remember with Martha's

obedience to the Lord, she knew the joy of once again spending time with her brother, Lazarus.

I wonder what joy God has in mind for us?

I suppose we won't find out until we roll the stone away and obey the Lord!

† **John 11:43-44** *Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "**Lazarus, come forth!**" And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "**Loose him, and let him go.**"*

† **Acts 27:25 (NLT2)** *So take courage! For I believe God. It will be just as he said.*