



Easter Sunday - 4 April'21

Good morning, everyone - The Lord is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!!

Let us worship Him, the risen, glorified and victorious King

[From Whom All Blessings Flow \(Doxology\) \(Official Lyric Video\)- Hillsong Worship](#)

[Is He Worthy Chris Tomlin worship video with lyrics](#)

Today, as we focus on the resurrection of Jesus, we are also looking back to the account of the resurrection of Lazarus. Let's watch the story now and whilst watching it *pause* and *ponder* what the reactions of Lazarus, the crowd and Jesus might have been.

You can read the The Story of Lazarus in John 11:1 -44 later.

[Jesus Calls Lazarus Out Of His Grave](#)

Imagine the shock and horror of the crowd when Lazarus staggered out of the tomb.

What would be the different responses of the people in the crowd, including the Jewish leaders?

What would Lazarus be thinking or how would he be feeling as he became aware of his grave clothes and smelling the fragrance of the spices for the first time?

The crowd were asked to remove Lazarus' grave clothes, then the glory of God was revealed to them. What would be the mixed range of feelings and responses when that happened?

What would Lazarus be thinking as he saw his gathered friends who had attended his funeral?

Not only was Lazarus raised from the dead, but he was also set free from the sickness which had killed him!

It would have been painful for Jesus not to respond to the sisters' pleas to come and heal their brother, Lazarus, as He loved him also. He wept and groaned.

But Jesus was able to look ahead to the glory of God in Lazarus' resurrection and also His own death and resurrection which were to follow in the near future.

The home at Bethany was a place of comfort, rest and friendship for Jesus with his friends. Our homes can be like Bethany to others. Can we think of 3 people we know who are like Bethany to us ... give thanks to God for them now and bless them in all that they do. Can we also think of 3 people we know who need that comfort and friendship ... pray for them now that they might enter into all that God has for them.

We'll now watch another short video when Jesus returns to the home of Lazarus, Martha and Mary just as the Passover preparations were being made.

[Mary Pours Perfume on Jesus | Bible Story | LifeKids](#)

Some time later in Bethany at the home of Lazarus and his sisters Martha and Mary a meal was prepared to celebrate and honour Jesus. It was the evening of the day when the Passover Lamb was set aside ahead of the Passover Meal. Mary, in tears, anointed the feet of Jesus with an expensive perfume, nard.

Did Mary know what lay ahead for Jesus? Jesus confirmed it by rebuking Judas "Leave her alone! She kept this for the day of my burial."

Judas complained about the cost of the anointing perfume/oil, supposedly because the money should have been given to the poor. However when he received 30 pieces of silver - the cost of betrayal - the price of a slave - no thought was given to the poor then.

We believe when Jesus emerged from the tomb it was with the fragrance of the spices and not the smell of death.

Up from the grave He arose with a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a victor from the dark domain
And He lives forever with His saints to rain
He arose! He arose! Alleluia, Christ arose!

Jesus was crucified during the Passover week celebrations on the day before the Sabbath. Man was created by God on the 6th Day, the day before the 1st Sabbath. So, whereas mankind was brought into being by a loving, creative God on the day before the Sabbath, so, that same loving, creative God had His Son die on the day before the Sabbath many centuries later to put into action His ultimate act of redemption and salvation. No detail is missed in the plan or its execution. Mankind created on the day before the Sabbath, Mankind redeemed on the day before the Sabbath.

Jesus, released from the tomb on the Day of Firstfruits - raised up in resurrection life - was the first of the harvest and the first of many, praise God.

[Jesus Paid It All](#) [With Lyrics By Fernando Ortega](#)