



**11 – 17 Nov, 2018**

**'I Am', part 4**

**'And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin,  
but the Spirit is life because of righteousness' Romans 8:10**

**'I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, though he may die,  
he shall live' (Joh 11:25; Joh 11:1-44)**

- † **The belief in the resurrection from the dead is a crucial belief of the Christian faith**
- † **Jesus had healed so many people. He could have gone and healed Lazarus before dying, but He did not**
- † **His delay had a specific purpose. God's timing. God answers all our needs according to His perfect schedule and purpose (*Phi 4:9*). Patiently await His timing**
- † **The Lord delayed in order for Lazarus to be dead long enough that the corruption of his body could set in (*Joh 11:39*). Thus, no one could doubt the miracle, and the power of the Lord would be clearly seen by all**
- † **God's purpose was to glorify His Son (*Joh 11:4*) and to cause the disciples to grow (*Joh 11:15*). Had Jesus immediately rushed to Lazarus' bedside and healed him, Lazarus would not have died and Jesus would not have been able to manifest His glory by raising Lazarus.**
- † **Christ wanted to demonstrate His power over death and to prepare His followers to understand an astonishing truth: That He was Himself the Resurrection and the Life (*Joh 11:25*). The resurrection is Christ, the Person, not an event**
- † **Through Him, sin's power would be broken and rebellious people would be able to come to the Father in peace.**
- † **He raised Lazarus from the dead to foreshadow His own resurrection**
- † **Jesus restored Lazarus to life. It was not a resurrection; Lazarus died again**
- † **This miracle is the climax in Christ's ministry, although it is the third miracle Jesus does in restoring life. He wanted the people who were looking at these specific miracles to know that the Father is in Him and He is in the Father (*Joh 10:38*)**
- † **The authority of Jesus on that day was so powerful that Augustine once said that, if Jesus had not designated Lazarus by name, all the graves would have been emptied at His command (*Joh 5:28*): 'Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice**

- † Having life is having a personal relationship with Christ, the Life. Christ calls Lazarus forth, not in the name of the Father, but by His own authority. This shows the people that while Christ came from the Father, He fully possesses divine authority in Himself.
- † Jesus is Life; through Christ's resurrection, we are all resurrected. The miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead not only prepared the disciples to believe in Christ's Resurrection. It also confirmed the universal resurrection, proving Christ has the power to fulfill the promise given to Ezekiel that all the dead will one day rise (*Eze 37:1-13*)
- † Jesus has power over life and death as well as power to forgive sins. This is because he is Creator of life (*Joh 14:6*). He who is Life can surely restore life. Whoever believes in Christ has a spiritual life that death cannot conquer or diminish in any way. When we realize his power and how wonderful his offer to us really is, how can we not commit our lives to him? To those of us who believe, what wonderful assurance and certainty we have: 'Because I live, ye shall live also' (*Joh 14:19*)
- † In the Eastern Church, we celebrate this miracle on the first day of the Holy week which is Saturday before the Palm Sunday

**'I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me' (Joh 14:6)**

- † Jesus the Way. He is the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last (*Rev 1:11,17*)
  - Through His death and resurrection, Jesus is the Way to the Father
  - Only in Christ can one come to know the Father, for only in Christ is the way of all truth and all life found
  - That is why Jesus told the apostles and is telling us 'Follow Me'
  - Our response to Christ determines our relationship with the Father. If we reject Christ then we will never find the Father; but if we believe in Christ and follow Him, then we ourselves will become 'children of God,' living eternally in the love of the Father
- † Jesus the Truth
  - Jesus Who came to fulfill the law and the prophets, is the Truth
  - As Truth, He is the revelation of God
  - He is the reality of all God's promises
  - Jesus is the Incarnate Word of God
  - He is the Truth He will set us free (*Joh 8:32*)
- † Jesus the Life
 

As the Life, he joins His divine life to ours, both now and eternally

**'I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser' (Joh 15:1)**

We discussed in previous lessons

## Bibliography

1. *Life Application Study Bible KJV* (Tyndale House Publishers, Illinois, 2007), Kindle Edition
2. *NKJV, Know The Word Study Bible*, Gain a greater understanding of the Bible book by book, verse by verse, or topic by topic (copyright Thomas Nelson, 1982) Kindle Edition, 2016
3. *The Orthodox Study Bible: Ancient Christianity Speaks to Today's World* (For the Old Testament text copyright of St Athanasius Academy of Orthodox Theology, 2008 and for the New Testament text the NKJV, copyright Thomas Nelson, 1982), Kindle Edition, 2008

## Legend

■ Refers to mandatory readings

## Verse to memorize

'And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the Only True God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent' John 17:3

## During this coming week, we will lift the Armenian Orthodox Church in prayer

قانون الايمان  
نؤمن باِله واحد  
الآب ضابط الكل  
خالق السماء والأرض  
كل ما يرى وما لا يرى  
ويربّ واحد يسوع المسيح، ابن الله الوحيد  
المولود من الآب قبل كل الدهور  
إله من إله، نور من نور، إله حق من إله حق  
مولود غير مخلوق، الذي له وللآب جوهر واحد  
الذي به كان كل شيء  
والذي من أجلنا نحن البشر ومن أجل خلاصنا  
نزل من السماء  
وتجسد من الروح القدس ومن مريم العذراء  
وتأس وصليب عنا على عهد بيلاطس البنطي  
وتألم ومات وقبر وقام في اليوم الثالث كما جاء في الكتب  
وصعد إلى السماء وجلس عن يمين الله الآب  
وسوف يأتي بمجد عظيم ليدين الأحياء والأموات  
والذي لا فناء لملكه  
وبالروح القدس، الربّ المحيي، المُنبت من الآب والإبن  
الذي هو مع الآب والإبن  
يُسجد له ويُمجد  
الناطق بالأنبياء  
وبكنيسة واحدة، جامعة، مقدّسة، رسولية  
ونعترف بمعمودية واحدة لمغفرة الخطايا  
ونترجى قيامة الموتى والحياة في الدهر الآتي  
أمين

الصلاة الربانية  
أبنا الذي في السموات  
ليتقدّس اسمك  
ليأت ملكوتك  
لتكن مشيئتك  
كما في السماء  
كذلك على الأرض  
أعطنا خبزنا كفاف يومنا  
وأغفر لنا ذنوبنا وخطايانا  
كما نحن نغفر  
لمن أخطأ وأساء إلينا  
ولا ندخلنا في التجارب  
لكن نجنا من الشرير  
أمين

