

## John 11:7

Jesus had just been in Jerusalem in the temple, where he proclaimed, "I and my Father are one". When the Jewish religious rulers tried to stone him to death, he escaped to an area called Perea, East of the Jordan river. He was probably in a place about 30 miles from Bethany where Lazarus lived.

(1)

Think about [John 11:6-8](#).

*So, when he (Jesus) heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?"*

- What did Jesus want to do? Why?
- What did Jesus's disciples want to do? Why?

Think about [John 11:9-10](#).

*Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."*

- How does the above parable answer the disciples' reason for not going to Judea?  
Consider [John 9:4-5](#). (Jesus said) *"We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."*
- How would you explain the parts of this parable as it applied to the faith of Jesus' students going with him to Judea? (See John 11:9-10 quoted above.)
  - ➔ Are there not twelve hours in the day?
  - ➔ If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.
  - ➔ But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.



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(2)

Think about [John 11:11-13](#).

*After saying these things, he (Jesus) said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep.*

- How did Jesus describe the death of Lazarus?
- How did Jesus describe his intention to restore Lazarus to life?
- Why does God describe the death of an earthly human body as falling asleep?

*[1Thessalonians 4:13-17](#). (the Apostle Paul said) ... we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, ... the dead in Christ will rise ... and so we will always be with the Lord.*

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(3)

Think about [John 11:14-15](#).

*Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."*

- What was Jesus glad about?
- Why was Jesus glad that Lazarus was dead?

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(4)

Think about [John 11:16](#).

*So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."*

- What did the disciples believe was going to happen in Judea?
- What mindset does Jesus require from his followers?  
*Consider [Luke 9:23-24](#). And he (Jesus) said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it."*
- What is the end result of deciding how to live, based on the fear of people's reaction?  
*Consider [Proverbs 29:25](#). The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in and puts his confidence in the LORD will be exalted and safe.*