

## Christ's Love and The Resurrection of Lazarus - A Great Cloud of Witnesses (Part 1 &2)

**SPS:** To gain a deeper appreciation for and increase our faith in the resurrected Jesus Christ's direct and personal interest and involvement in your daily life.

### **Foundation Scriptures – The Great Cloud of Witnesses**

1. **Acts 1:4-11** – God has given us His Holy Spirit
2. **Hebrews 13:1-9** - God the Father and Jesus Christ have incredible expectations of us.
3. **Hebrews 12:1-11** – We have access to the “great cloud of witnesses”
4. **Hebrews 4:14-16** – We have a Great High Priest who understands

### **John 11:1-4 – The Resurrection of Lazarus**

1. We are dealing with someone who is gravely sick
2. His name is Lazarus...he is from Bethany
3. He has a sister by the name of Mary
4. He has a sister by the name of Martha
5. Lazarus was loved by Jesus Christ
6. Jesus Christ is not in Bethany when he hears of Lazarus' sickness.  
There are times when:
  - A. Jesus Christ was nearby: **John 5:6-9**
  - B. The requestor for intercessory prayer was with Jesus Christ, but the person who was sick was somewhere else: **John 4:46-51**
  - C. A third party came to request healing for the one sick: **Luke 7:2-10**
7. Jesus Christ already knew that Lazarus was sick
8. Jesus Christ knew that his sickness was not unto death
  - A. Christ may choose not to give the answer to our question: **Matthew 21:24-27**
  - B. Christ may choose to answer with, NO!: **Mark 10:35-40**
  - C. Christ may choose to answer with, WAIT...and I will heal you in this physical life: **2 Corinthians 12:7-9**
  - D. Christ may choose to answer with, WAIT...and I will heal you in the Resurrection: **John 11:4**
  - E. Christ may choose to answer with, YES...immediately!: **Luke 8:43-48**
9. Jesus Christ knew that Lazarus sickness was for the glory of His Father: **John 11:4**
10. Jesus Christ knew that his sickness was so the Son of God might be glorified through it: **John 11:4**
  - A. Sometimes, Jesus Christ does reveal the greater purpose for our sicknesses as he did for Paul: **2 Corinthians 12:7-10**
  - B. Sometimes, an infirmity may last for decades before the answer is revealed: **John 9:1-7**
  - C. Sometimes, God allows life itself to cease before the answer is revealed: **John 11:6-7**