



Orthodoxy



March 2022

THE MIRACLES OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

3. The Lord's Authority over Death

It is always sad when we talk about death!! But why there is death?



FOR THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH
ROMANS 6:23

Because each of us inherited Adam's sin, and the result of sin is death. Death is our foremost enemy. Mankind through his technological advances has been trying to "Delay death," by making research to invent medications to treat many diseases or do surgeries to correct failures of various body parts.

Many of the medications were effective to treat some diseases and many surgeries were successful, but the truth, our life will end with physical death no matter what, and the number of the days each of us will live are counted by God who gave each one of us life, and NO one is able to increase or take one day of someone's life except God the creator.



Raising Jairus daughter



We read this miracle in the gospel of St. Matthew 9:18-26, the gospel of St. Mark 5:21-43 and the gospel of St. Luke 8:40-56.



Many people gathered around the Lord Jesus to hear Him preach and to watch His miracles. One man who came to the Lord Jesus was named Jairus. A lot of people knew Jairus because Jairus was a ruler of the synagogue. On this day, Jairus had a very big problem. His twelve-year-old daughter was so sick, she was about to die. Jairus came to the Lord Jesus because he knew the Lord could make his daughter well again.



"Please, Lord Jesus, come and put your hands on my daughter so that she can be well again!" Jairus begged the Lord. So, the Lord Jesus went with him. While they were in their way. One of Jairus' friends came and told him to stop trying to bother the Lord Jesus now." It is too late. Your





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daughter is dead," the friend said. Jairus was very sad. The Lord Jesus could have helped make his sick daughter well, but nobody could make a dead girl alive. That would be impossible!



When the Lord Jesus saw that Jairus was sad, he looked at him and said, "Don't be afraid Jairus; just believe." So, the Lord Jesus, Jairus, Peter, James and John left the crowd and went to Jairus' house. When they arrived they saw people were crying. The dead daughter was lying down, the Lord Jesus told them to get out and stop all the loud crying because the little girl was just sleeping!! Everyone laughed because they knew that the little girl was dead. Everyone left the room except for the Lord Jesus, his disciples, and the girl's parents.

The Lord Jesus took the girl by the hand and said, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!" The little girl immediately got up and began to walk around. Our Lord Jesus told the people to bring some food for the girl. Everyone was astonished when they saw a dead girl alive again and walking around.



The Lord Jesus could do anything because He is God who appeared in the flesh.

Raising the Son of the Widow of Nain



We read this miracle in the gospel of St. Luke (7:11-17). The Lord Jesus went to a town called Nain (Na'in). His disciples and a large crowd followed Him. When the Lord Jesus came to the town's gate, He saw a dead person being carried out with a large crowd following behind.



This dead person was the only son of a widow. (A widow is a woman whose husband has died.)

When this woman's husband died, she would have depended on her son to take care of her. But now, her son, her only son, had died, she felt alone, helpless, and very sad. When Jesus saw the widow, His heart went out to her. He had compassion on her. And He said, "Don't

cry." The Lord Jesus understood what the widow was going through. Then the Lord went and touched the coffin of the dead man. According to the law then, touching a dead would make you "unclean" for 7 days, but the Lord Jesus didn't let that stop Him. Then He said, "Young man, I say to you, get up!" And the dead man sat up and





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began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother. Those who saw this miracle were filled with awe and praised God. And news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding country.

Many times, when something bad happens, when we feel alone, helpless, and very sad, we think nobody understands. We wonder where God is. But the truth is: He is there, He understands, and He is filled with love and compassion for us.



Raising of Lazarus



We read this miracle in the gospel of St. John 11-1:44.



The Lord Jesus had three very close friends who lived in Bethany. They were Lazarus and his two sisters, Mary, and Martha. One day, while Jesus was on the other side of the Jordan, Mary and Martha sent him an urgent message: 'Lazarus is very sick. Please come quickly!' But the Lord Jesus did not go right away. He waited for two more days and

then said to His disciples: 'Let's go to Bethany. Lazarus is sleeping, and I am going to wake him up.' The apostles said: 'If Lazarus is asleep, he will get well.' So, the Lord Jesus told them clearly: 'Lazarus has died'.



When Lord Jesus arrived at Bethany, Lazarus had already been buried for four days. Crowds of people had come to comfort Martha and Mary. When Martha heard that Jesus had come, she rushed to meet him. She said: "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." Jesus told her: 'Your brother will live again. Do you believe this, Martha?' She said: 'I believe that he will rise in the resurrection.' Jesus said to her:

"I am the resurrection and the life."

Then Martha went to Mary and told her: 'Jesus is here.' Mary ran to the Lord, and the crowd followed. She fell at His feet, and she could not stop crying. She said: 'Lord, if You had been here, our brother would still be alive!' The Lord Jesus saw how much she was suffering, and He also began to cry. When the crowd saw His tears, they said: 'See how Jesus loved Lazarus.' But some wondered: 'Why didn't He save His friend?'





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Lord Jesus went to the tomb, where a large stone covered the entrance. He commanded: 'Roll the stone away.' Martha said: 'But it has been four days! His body will smell.' Still, they rolled the stone away, and Jesus prayed: 'Father, thank you for hearing me. I know that You always hear me, but I speak aloud so that these people may know that You sent me.' Then He called out in a loud voice: "Lazarus, come out!". Something amazing happened: Lazarus came out of the tomb, still wrapped in linen cloths. Jesus said: "Free him and let him go.



Never lose hope, things might be challenging, but one day God in His perfect timing will deliver us, as He rose Lazarus after four days inside the tomb! That is a promise we can believe and take to heart. When we believe and trust God, because He is in control.

The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus

We read about the resurrection of the Lord in the gospel of St. Matthew (28:1-7), the gospel of St. Mark (16:1-10), the gospel of St. Luke (24:1-12) and the gospel of St. John (20:1-18).



The Lord Himself rose from the dead on the third day, with His death on the cross, He conquered death! Nobody was able to rise again from the death by Himself except the Lord Jesus because He is God who appeared on the flesh, the life giver who has authority over death. He Himself raised many others from death with a mere command: He is the raiser of dead; it was not difficult for Him to rise. "For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will" (John 5:21). He who gives life to others can for sure raise Himself. The Lord Jesus is the only one who has complete power over death. He brought three people back to life and He himself rose from the death.



We too were dead in our sins, and there was nothing we can do to save ourselves. But the Lord Jesus, in His great love for each of us, give us a chance to live with Him eternally. Every human on earth will die one day, but if we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, have trust in Him, follow His commandments, and be a true witness for Him, we will be able to live forever with God after death.

