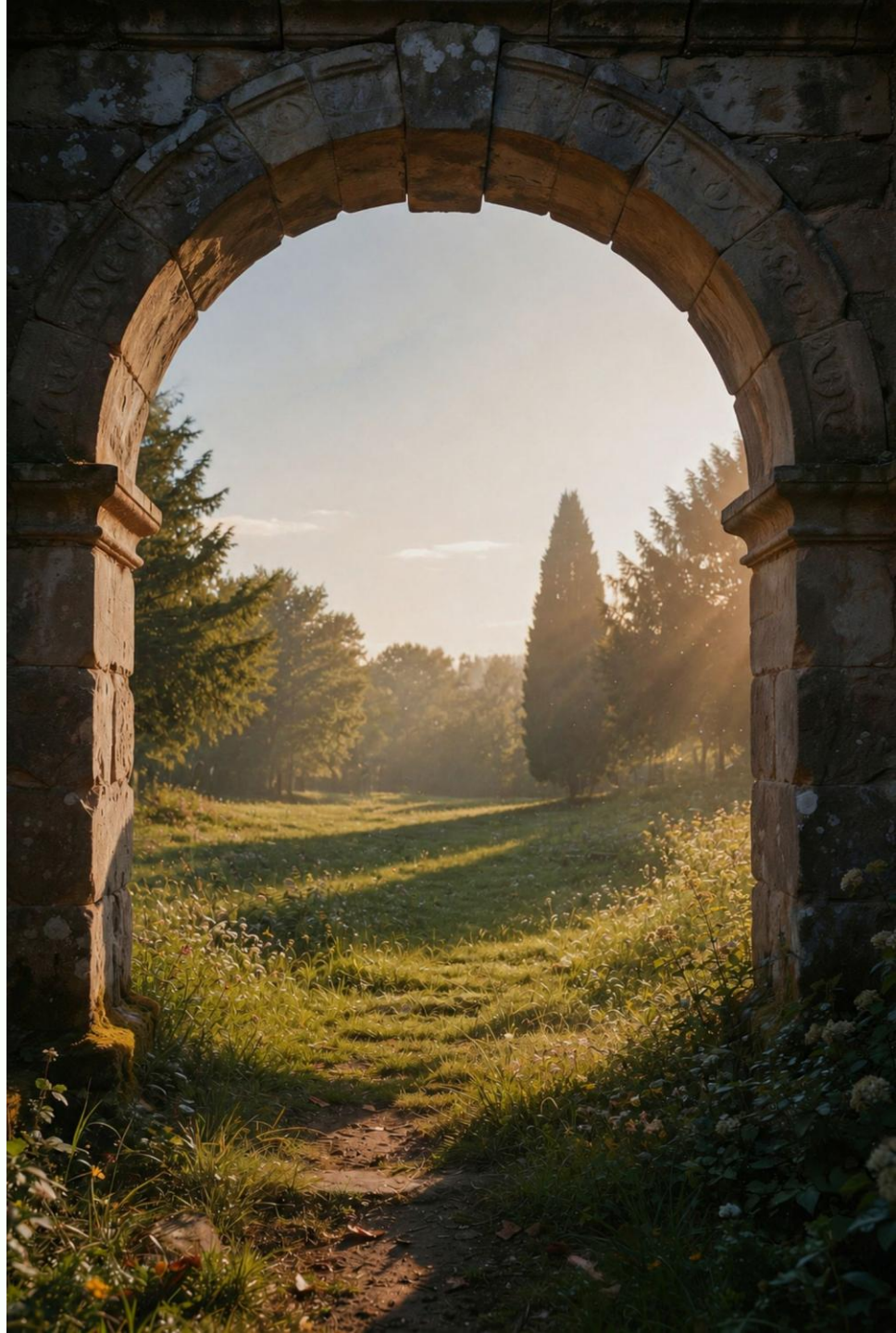
There Are Things Only Jesus Can Do

A Message from John 11:1–44

JOHN 11 · THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

Pastor Leia



The Battle for Your Faith

How many times have we experience trials in our faith and suddenly we end up sitting on the sidelines, beaten down, weeping, and wondering how we got there?

> *"What happened to you to make you like this?*
>
> Enemy fire is real. The liar comes
>
> to steal your peace,
>
> to rob your joy, and to make you think that your present trial is your permanent end.

But hear the Word of the Lord today: **the enemy may steal your temporary comfort, but he cannot touch your standing in God.** Your life does not belong to your circumstances – **your life belongs to God, and God commands your destiny!**

John 11:1–16 — The Word of the Lord

Verses 1–10

1 Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the
village of Mary and her sister Martha. **2** (This Mary, whose brother
Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the
Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) **3** So the sisters sent word to
Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

4 When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death.
No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through
it." **5** Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. **6** So when
he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more
days, **7** and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

8 "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to
stone you, and yet you are going back?" **9** Jesus answered, "Are there
not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will
not stumble, for they see by this world's light. **10** It is when a person
walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light."

Verses 11–16

11 After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus
has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

12 His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." **13** Jesus
had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant
natural sleep.

14 So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, **15** and for your
sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go
to him."

16 Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the
disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

John 11:17–37 — The Word of the Lord

Verses 17–29

17 On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for
four days. **18** Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, **19** and
many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of
their brother. **20** When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out
to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

21 "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not
have died. **22** But I know that even now God will give you whatever you
ask."

23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." **24** Martha answered, "I
know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who
believes in me will live, even though they die; **26** and whoever lives by
believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

27 "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of
God, who is to come into the world." **28** After she had said this, she went
back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is
asking for you." **29** When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to
him.

Verses 30–37

30 Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place
where Martha had met him. **31** When the Jews who had been with Mary in
the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out,
they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

32 When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at
his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have
died."

33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with
her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. **34** "Where
have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied.

35 Jesus wept.

36 Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" **37** But some of them said,
"Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man
from dying?"

John 11:38–44 — The Word of the Lord

Verses 38–41

38 Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a
cave with a stone laid across the entrance. **39** "Take away the
stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead
man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four
days."

40 Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will
see the glory of God?" **41** So they took away the stone. Then Jesus
looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me."

Verses 42–44

42 "I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit
of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent
me."

43 When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, **"Lazarus,
come out!"**

44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with
strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them,
"Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

Part I: The Delay

JOHN 11:1 - 21

Word reaches Jesus that His dear friend Lazarus is sick. The sisters send a simple, faith-filled message: *"Lord, the one You love is sick."*

The tomb was sealed.

> **"Lord, if You had been here, my marriage wouldn't have broken."**

> **"Lord, if You had answered last month, I wouldn't have lost the house."**

> **"Lord, if only... !"**

- A delay in our calendar is not a delay in God's kingdom

Part II: The God of the Impossible

JOHN 11:23 - 40

Jesus looks at Martha in the middle of her mourning and utters one of the greatest declarations in all of Scripture:

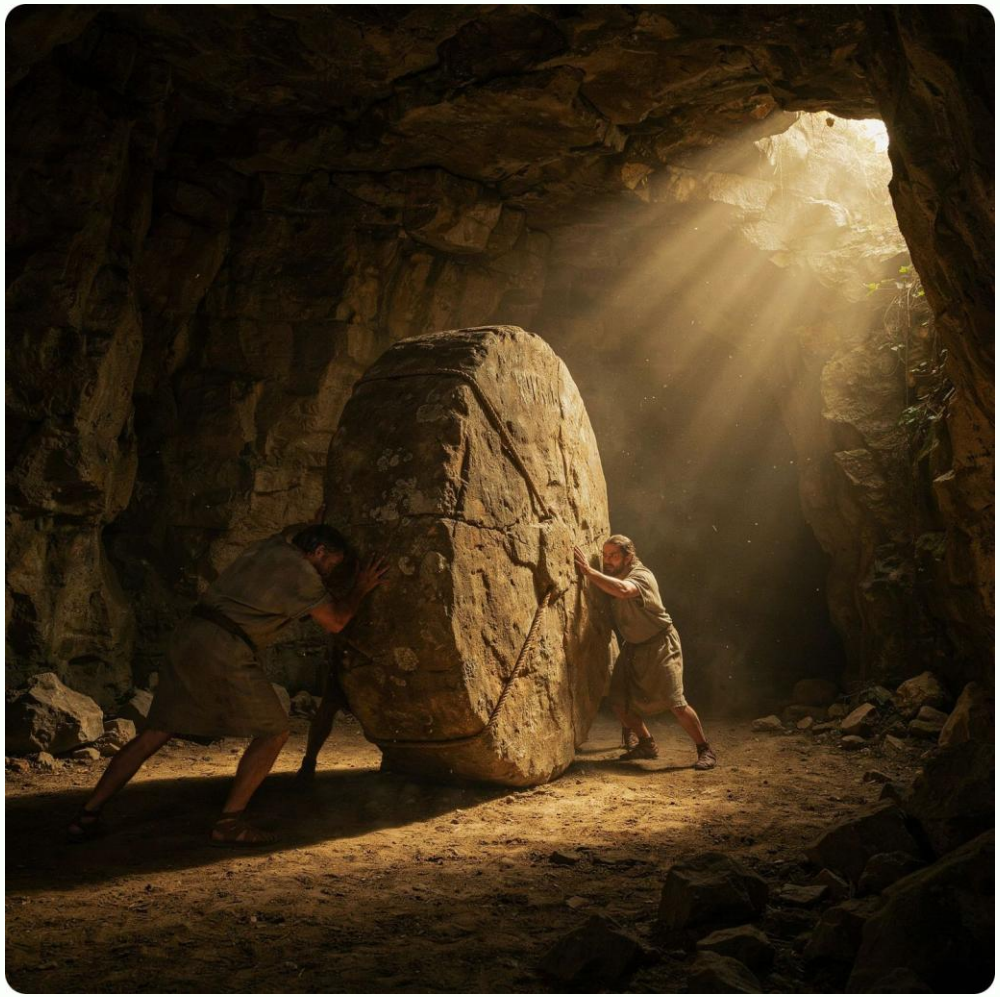
> *"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."* – John 11:25

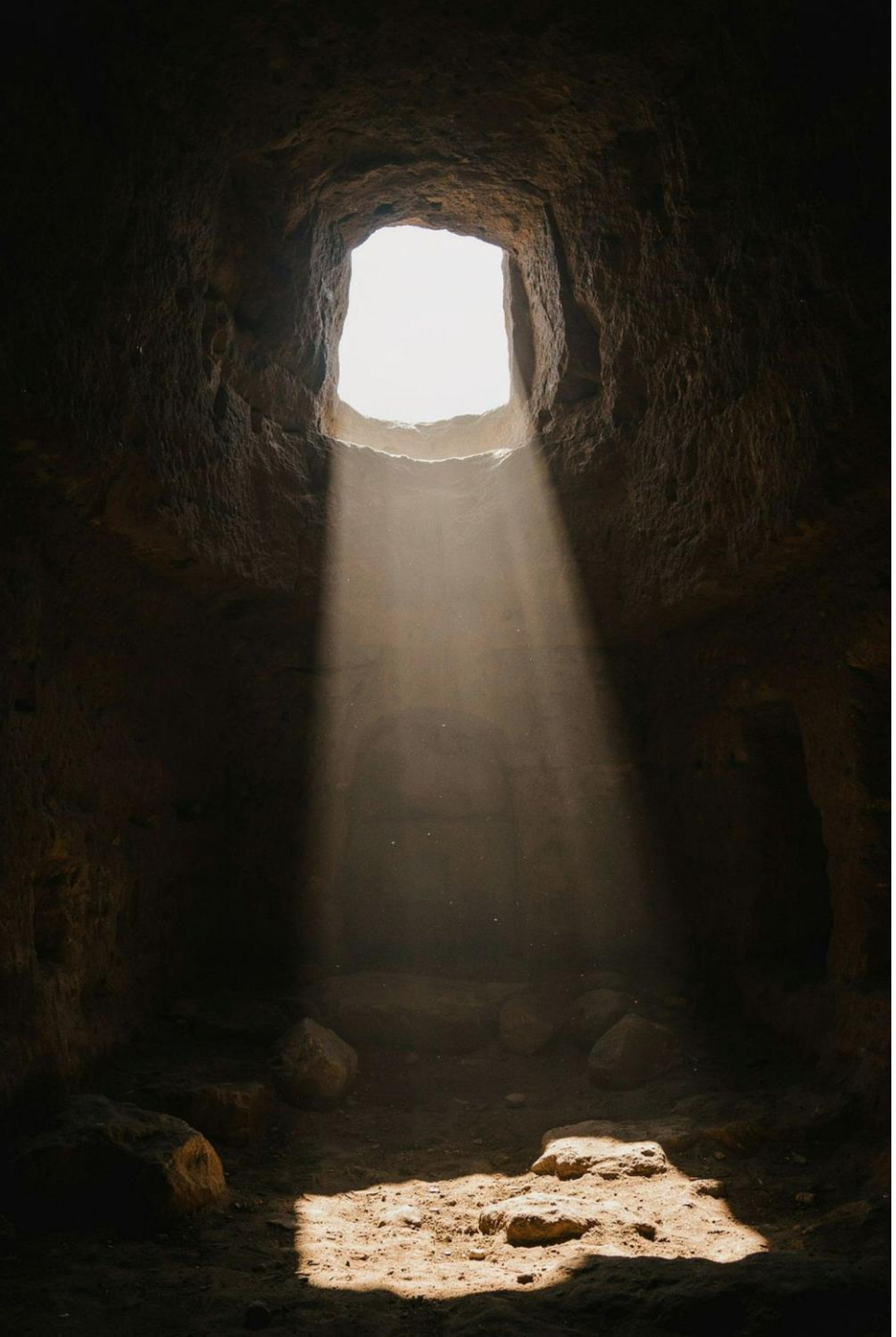
Notice Jesus didn't say, "I *have* resurrection power" or "I will *bring* resurrection later.“

He said, **"I AM."** Resurrection isn't just an event – it's a Person! When Jesus walks onto your scene, the environment of death has to change because Life Himself has arrived.

Then comes the command that shocks everyone:

"Take away the stone." Martha hesitates – and isn't that just like us? We want the miracle, but we want to keep the stone in place because we're ashamed of the smell. But Jesus says: **"Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"**





Part III: Lazarus, Come Forth!

They rolled away the stone. Jesus lifted His eyes to Heaven, gave thanks to the Father, and then called into the mouth of the grave with absolute authority:

"LAZARUS, COME FORTH!"

Lift up your eyes to heaven,
Give thanks to the father
And call it out:

Lazarus came out alive!

There Are Things Only Jesus Can Do

People may have tried to help you in your struggle, but human strength ran out. Don't judge them, and don't lose heart – because there are some doors only God can open, some chains only God can break, and **there are things that only Jesus can do!**

1 Stop Listening to the Deceiver

The devil wants you focused on the four days in the tomb. Jesus wants you focused on the power of the Resurrection. The enemy cannot erase the love that Christ has for you.

2 Roll Away the Stone

Bring your brokenness, your dead dreams, your marriage, your heath, your loved ones out into the open before the Lord.

Remove the Stone.

God already knows – and He still says, "Come."

3 Listen for His Voice

Jesus is calling our name today. He isn't calling to condemn – He is calling you out of the darkness of sadness, hopeless into life, liberty, and peace. Come out and take off the grave clothes!

Lift Up Your Eyes.

Give thanks to the father and Call it out!

Your tears may soak your cries for help, but God has already dispatched reinforcements for this war. Your life does not belong to your circumstances, your feelings, or your adversary.

Your life belongs to God — and God commands your destiny!

> *"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die."*
> – John 11:25, NIV



Our friend is calling!

Jesus is calling,
Come out and take off the grave clothes.

Let us pray!