



20/20 Embracing a New Vision of Time

John 11:1-15 (NIV)

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." 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."

Embracing a New Vision of Time:

I. Vision sees time as limited. (John 11:14)

- A person of vision faces the reality of their mortality. (James 4:13-14)

- With time I can spend it, waste it, or invest it!
- A person of vision lives in light of eternity!
- How different would your life be if you knew you had 30 days to live?

2. Vision sees God's glory as more important than my time. (John 11:4-7)

- A person of vision realizes delay is not God's disinterest, but a part of His divine purpose.
- When God waits it's always worth it!

John 11:21-27 (NIV)

John 11:38-44 (NIV)

- God wants to destroy our "bumper sticker" religion so He can bring to life true belief!
- Vision is forged in the dark!
- Vision understands believing is seeing!
- What is a stone that God might be calling you to roll away to see your resurrection story?

3. Vision understands that our time here is not all there is. (John 11:25-26)

- Vision sees the person, not just the event called resurrection.
- A person of vision sees this life as merely the preseason!
(1 Corinthians 2:9-10; Matthew 6:19-21)
- In what ways are you living your life like this time is all there is?