

# When God Shows Up Too Late

Scripture: John 11:44  
Romans 6:1-4

**John 11:44 (NKJV)** And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go."

**Rom 6:1-4 (NKJV)** What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

## I. The death of the dream

**John 11:21 (NKJV)** Then Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.

- A. We laid hold of God's promise
- B. Intervening circumstances
- C. God did not seem to be there
- D. We watched our dream die
- E. We're devastated
  - 1. We witnessed the death
  - 2. God failed to show up

## II. The Lord arrives

**John 11:22 (NKJV)** "But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."

- A. We are mourning our loss
- B. We're mad at God for failing us
- C. The Lord finally arrives
- D. He wants to see where we buried our dream
- E. He asks for the stone to be removed
  - 1. We know we made a mess of it
  - 2. It stinks
- F. The Lord wants to expose the glory of God
- G. Jesus resurrects the dream

## III. Removing the grave clothes

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- A. Some grave clothes to remove
  - 1. Preconceived ideas - Naaman
  - 2. The methods of the past - Samson
  - 3. Working without His power - Seven sons of Sceva
- B. Raised to new life
  - 1. Get rid of the old
  - 2. Discover the new
    - a. God's new instructions
    - b. God's new methods
  - 3. Take the resurrected dream where God wants it to go
- C. How to peel off the grave clothes
  - 1. Ask for help - Counselling, etc.
  - 2. Drink in the Word
  - 3. Seek true Christian fellowship
  - 4. Seek God's directions
  - 5. Obey God completely - Saul, Amalek, Agag, Agagites
  - 6. Seek the new life

## Conclusion

You may think nothing about your life and hopes and dreams can be salvaged. But those hopes and dreams can be resurrected at the feet of Jesus.