



SERMON NOTES

September 24, 2017

Scripture: John 11:1-6 (NAS)

"Friends of Jesus"

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- 1 Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.
- 2 And it was the Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.
- 3 The sisters therefore sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick."
- 4 But when Jesus heard it, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified by it."
- 5 Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.
- 6 When therefore He heard that he was sick, He stayed then two days longer in the place where He was.

I. IMPORTANCE OF FRIENDSHIP

- A. Jesus Chose To Have Friends
- B. True Friendship Is A Durable Relationship *Proverbs 17:17*
- C. Jesus Showed Friendship To His Disciples
- D. Jesus Befriended The Family Of Mary, Martha and Lazarus

II. FRIENDSHIP WITH JESUS DOES NOT EXEMPT US FROM STRUGGLES

- A. Lazarus Became Sick
- B. Friendship With Jesus Gives Us A Place To Flee In Time Of Trouble *Psalms 46:1, 2*

III. THE PETITION MADE TO JESUS

- A. It Was Not Based ON Lazarus' Love For Jesus

- B. It Was Not Based On The Sister's Love for Jesus

- C. The Plea Was Based On Jesus' Love *1 John 4:10; Romans 5:10; 1 John 4:19*

IV. THE PETITION RELIED ON JESUS' WISDOM

- A. The Sisters Simply Made Jesus Aware Of Their Concern
- B. Our Best Petitions Rely Upon His Wisdom

V. A VIEW OF HOW GOD ANSWERS PRAYER

- A. He Give Us Assurance Of His Hand Controlling The Future
 1. The illness is not to end in death
 2. He knows He will resurrect Lazarus *1 Corinthians 15:42-44*
- B. His Time Is Different Than Ours
 1. Based in love
 2. Based in a plan for His glory

APPLICATION:

1. We Need To Realize It Is Only The Love Of Christ Which Brings Our Petitions To Fruition
2. We Need To Trust God For The Best Answers To Our Prayers
3. We Need To Always Remember This Will Not End In Death
4. Remember God's Glory Is Always Behind The Manner In Which He Answers Our Prayers