



There are scenes in the Gospel that are not just read... they are felt. The miracle of the resurrection of Lazarus of Bethany is one of them. It is not simply another wonder among many, but a profound revelation of the heart of God, a foretaste of the definitive victory over death and, at the same time, a deeply personal call addressed to each one of us.

This episode, narrated in the Gospel of John the Evangelist (Jn 11:1-44), places before us a decisive question: do you truly believe that Christ has power over death... even over the “deaths” you carry within?

1. A Deeply Human Story: Pain, Friendship, and Tears

The account begins with a situation we can all understand: the illness and death of a loved one. Lazarus of Bethany was the brother of Martha of Bethany and Mary of Bethany, close friends of Jesus Christ.

When Lazarus falls ill, his sisters send word to Jesus. However, He does not come immediately. This detail is striking: why does He delay if He loves this family?

Here we find a first theological key:

God does not act according to our timing, but according to His plan of salvation.

When He finally arrives, Lazarus has already been in the tomb for four days. Everything seems lost. Martha goes out to meet Him with a mixture of faith and reproach:

“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died” (Jn 11:21)

How many times have we said the same in the silence of our hearts?

And then something extraordinary happens:

Jesus weeps.

The Gospel expresses it in one of the shortest and most profound phrases in all Scripture:



| *“Jesus wept” (Jn 11:35)*

These tears reveal a moving truth:

God is not indifferent to human suffering. God is moved. God shares in our pain.

2. “I Am the Resurrection and the Life”: The Great Revelation

Before the miracle, Jesus pronounces one of the most important declarations in the Gospel:

| *“I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live” (Jn 11:25)*

This statement is not symbolic or metaphorical. It is an ontological revelation:

Christ does not merely give life... He IS Life.

Here lies the core of the Christian faith:

- Death does not have the final word
- Eternal life is not an idea, but a Person
- Believing in Christ radically changes the destiny of man

The question Jesus asks Martha still resounds today with the same force:

| *“Do you believe this?”*

It is not a question directed only to her. It is a direct challenge to every reader.



3. The Miracle: When the Voice of God Breaks Through Death

At the tomb, Jesus orders the stone to be removed. Martha hesitates:

—“Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days...”

This is human logic confronted with divine power. But Jesus insists.

Then He raises His voice and pronounces a command that pierces time and eternity:

| *“Lazarus, come out!” (Jn 11:43)*

And the impossible happens:
the dead man comes out, still wrapped in burial cloths.

This miracle has multiple theological dimensions:

a) Messianic Sign

It confirms that Jesus Christ is the Son of God with power over life and death.

b) Foreshadowing of the Resurrection

It anticipates Christ’s own resurrection, which will not be a return to earthly life like Lazarus’, but a definitive glorification.

c) Revelation of the Power of the Word

The Word of God does not describe reality:
it transforms it.



4. Spiritual Reading: We Are All Lazarus

This passage is not only a past event. It is a radiography of the human soul.

At some point, we are all like Lazarus of Bethany:

- Locked in the tomb of sin
- Bound by cloths that prevent us from living fully
- Surrounded by hopelessness or spiritual lukewarmness

And Christ still proclaims today:

“Come out”

What tomb do you need to leave?

- A life without meaning
- A superficial faith
- Habits that distance you from God
- Unhealed wounds

The miracle of Lazarus reminds us that
no situation is definitively lost for God.

5. “Unbind Him and Let Him Go”: The Communal Dimension

After raising Lazarus, Jesus says something surprising:

| *“Unbind him, and let him go” (Jn 11:44)*

Here the mission of the Church appears.

Christ gives life, but the community helps to free. This has a profound pastoral dimension:



- No one is saved alone
- Faith is lived in community
- We are called to help others “be unbound”

This becomes concrete in:

- Spiritual accompaniment
- The sacraments (especially confession)
- Fraternal charity

6. Practical Applications for Daily Life

This passage is not only to be contemplated, but to be lived. Here are some concrete keys:

1. Trust in God’s timing

Even when He seems late, He never is.
God acts at the perfect moment.

2. Do not be afraid to show your pain

Jesus wept. Faith does not eliminate suffering, but transforms it.

3. Listen to Christ’s voice

In prayer, in the Word, in the sacraments.
God still calls you by name.

4. Come out of your “tombs”

Identify what paralyzes you and surrender it to God.

5. Help others to be freed

Be an instrument of God in the lives of others.



7. A Message for Our Time

We live in a culture marked by fear, uncertainty, and, in many cases, deep hopelessness. The miracle of Lazarus is a direct response to this context:

- Against nihilism: **there is eternal life**
- Against suffering: **God weeps with you**
- Against death: **Christ conquers**

This episode invites us to rediscover Christian hope, not as naive optimism, but as a certainty grounded in the power of God.

Conclusion: The Cry That Calls You by Name

The miracle of Lazarus of Bethany is not just a memory of the past. It is a living reality.

Christ still approaches the tombs of our lives.

He is still moved by our pain.

He still calls us with divine authority.

The question is not whether He can raise the dead.

The question is whether you are willing to hear His voice.

Because when Christ calls...

death can no longer hold you.