

Christian Apologetics (08) (Part 1)
[I Am The Resurrection and The Life]

The word apologetics is derived from the Greek word, apologia. Apologia refers to a speech made in defense or a verbal response.

“Christian apologetics is a field of Christian theology that presents a rational basis for the Christian faith and defends the faith against objections, and exposes the perceived flaws of other world views.” (Wikipedia)

All of the lessons in the series entitled, Christian apologetics, will be taken from the Gospel of John.

Today will study the seventh outrageous **I AM** claim made by Jesus in the Gospel of John:

The Son of Man	The Door of Sheepfold
The Messiah	The Good Shepherd
The Bread of Life	The Resurrection and Life
The Light	

**This lesson will study five aspects of the outrageous claim made by Jesus:
I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.**

1. We will begin by examining the lesson text by the following six homiletic points regarding Jesus’ declaration:

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| • Feast of Dedication | (Jn.10:22, 31, 39-40) | Jerusalem to Bethany of Perea and threats on life. |
| • Family crisis | (Jn.1:1-10) | Critical sickness and hesitation. |
| • Fallen asleep | (Jn.11:11-16) | Lazarus died and new doctrinal term. |
| • Fourth day | (Jn.11:17-37) | Martha (Jn.11:20-27) - The “I AM” lesson. |
| • Mary | (Jn.11:28-37) | One question (Jn.11:34) Jesus wept (Jn.11:18, 20) |
| • Funeral service | (Jn.11:38-43) | Graveside lesson to Martha and prayer by Jesus. |
| • Faith miracle | (Jn.11:44-45) | Lazarus raised and mourners saved. |

2. Jesus used three Greek prepositions to explain how a crisis is beneficial in the plan of God to those who walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor.5:7).

(Jn.11:4) "This sickness is not to end (pros+acc) in death, but (alla) for (huper+abl) the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by (dia+gen) it."

- This verse explains why Jesus performed miracles in Israel (1 Cor.1:22) [Signs].
- This verse also explains why Jesus waited four days. His delay was for the living.

Four different Greek words are used in this story to explain death:

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| • (Jn.11:12) | koimao | [fallen asleep] |
| • (Jn.11:13) | thanatos | [Spiritual purpose] |
| • (Jn.11:14) | apothnesko | [Physical death] |
| • (Jn.11:39) | teleutao | [end of human existence] |

3. Every crisis in a Believer's life (CWL) is designed to focus attention upon the specifics of the Directive Will of God.

Learn the three categories of the Will of God:

- **God's Directive Will** Specifics of the Will of God according to the revealed Word of God.
- **God's Permissive Will** The free will of man able to choose for or against the Directive Will of God.
- **God's Overruling Will** The Sovereignty of God choosing to intervene in the course of bad choices that are in conflict with the Plan of God.

NOTE: A good example of these three categories was Jonah

- **God's Directive Will** Go to Nineveh and preach.
- **God's Permissive Will** Jonah runs away to Tarshish.
- **God's Overruling Will** Jonah is swallowed by a great fish and dumped on the shores of Nineveh!

Learn these three categories of the 'Directive' Will of God:

- **The Geographical Will of God** **Where** the directive will send us (Bethany of Judea).
- **The Operational Will of God** **What** the directive will wants us to do
 - Teach Martha, raise Lazarus and saved mourners).
- **The Mental Will of God** **How** I should think from a spiritual perspective
 - Glory of God so that the Son of God may be glorified

4. Everyone in our story was in some form of crisis of life.

- Jesus Jewish leaders were trying to kill Him (Jn.11:31, 39).
- The Disciples Let's go and die with Him! (Jn.11:16).
- Martha and Mary Jesus chose not to come when summoned (Jn.11:21, 32).
- The Mourners Why this healer didn't chose to heal His friend? (Jn.11:37).

QUESTION: How do you process a crisis in your Life? What kind of crisis is your life involved in today?

ANSWER: (Ps.11:130) "The unfolding of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple."

KNOW that you are never without divine HELP, not even in the FOURTH HOUR
(Heb.13:5) "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you."

5. In this lesson, Jesus showed that He is the Resurrection and the Life for both the living and the dead.

What Martha was struggling with in her soul regarding Jesus increased her stress level (Jn.11:21-22). Was it necessary?

What did Martha tell Jesus she believed about the death of her brother (Jn.11:23-24)? Was it true?

What three truths did Jesus teach Martha about death? (Jn.11:25-26)

- I AM the Resurrection and the Life.
- He who believes in Me will live even if he **dies**.
- Everyone who **lives** and believes in Me will never die.

"Do you believe this?" (Jn.11:26b) Note her response (Jn.11:27) Note some of the mourners response (Jn.11:45)