

WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

John 11:45-57

Main Thought

The miracle that gave Lazarus his life back is the miracle that got Jesus killed, and he knew it before he ever started for Bethany. Lazarus walked out of his grave because Jesus was willing to walk into his own.

1. They Were Afraid He Was Real (vv. 45-48) Some believed it, and some didn't, but nobody tried to say it wasn't real. They weren't afraid he was a liar. They were afraid he was real, and that being real would cost them their place. They lost it anyway. <i>"What are we to do? For this man performs many signs." (v. 47)</i>	2. Preaching the Gospel (vv. 49-53) Caiaphas did cold math. Better one man dies than the whole nation. John stops the story and calls it a prophecy. The man arranging the murder said the gospel out loud and never knew it. <i>"...he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation." (v. 51)</i>
3. He Was Waiting (vv. 54-57) Jesus withdrew to Ephraim with the twelve. Not hiding. Waiting. He walked back into Jerusalem during Passover week, when every road was crowded with lambs. The men who set the date were never the ones running the clock. <i>"Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand..." (v. 55)</i>	Key Scriptures <i>"The righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God." 1 Peter 3:18</i> <i>"...delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God..." Acts 2:23</i> <i>"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29</i>

What place am I protecting that's quietly deciding what I do about Jesus this week?

What's the date on my calendar I didn't put there, and who could I tell about it before Sunday?

"...not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad." (John 11:52)

He knew the cost, he paid it anyway, and he is still gathering his people.