

We will begin the 9th lecture on the book of John. /The message starts from John 10:11. / We learned that Jesus is the good shepherd. /Through him, we receive salvation. /Additionally, we are able to eat spiritual food through Jesus. /Thus we receive life through Jesus.

/Verse 11. Let us read. /I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

/Jesus is the good shepherd. /He loves his sheep, /and he sacrificed his life for his sheep. / The Lord died on the cross and resurrected from the dead to save us believers. /He showed us his infinite love for us by laying down his life. /Romans 5:8

/Verses 12-13. /He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

/In the world, there are hired shepherds. /These hired people do not work for the sheep. /They say they are for the sheep, but when the wolves come, the hired hand runs away. /They do not own the sheep.

/These “wolves” represent people who persecute believers. /They are the anti-Christ. /During times of trouble, hired hands abandon the sheep and run away. /When they do the work of God, they do it for their personal gains. /Hired shepherds chase after money. /They do not follow the truth. /Micah 3:11,12

/Verse 14. /I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,

/Jesus is the good shepherd. /The sheep know Jesus. /Jesus knows his sheep. /In this way, Jesus and his believers are united in life. /That is why Jesus knows us believers, /and we believers know Jesus.

/Also, God the Father knows Jesus. /Jesus knows God the Father. /Jesus gave his life for his sheep. /Such is the love of Jesus.

/Verse 16. /And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

/The fold is where the sheep stay. /Some sheep are not of this fold. /Here, “fold” symbolizes the spiritual world in Jesus. /Believers who enter this fold are spiritual believers with good faith.

/However, some sheep cannot enter the fold. /They are believers who did not enter the spiritual world. /They are believers of the flesh. /Although their faith is small, they are still believers. /1 Corinthians 3:1-3

/Pastors must guide the sheep that are in the fold, /and they also need to guide those outside of the fold. /They need to nurture those with good faith. /Pastors also need to nurture those with weak faith.

/Verse 17. /For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again.

/Jesus died on the cross. /God the Father allowed Jesus to die. /He let this happen because he endlessly loves us. /Jesus also gave up his life because he loved us. /In three days, Jesus rose again from the dead.

/Verse 18. /No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

/Jesus obeyed God’s command. /He volunteered to give up his life, and he died in obedience. /Jesus has the authority to lay down his life and the authority to take it up again. /Jesus obeyed God’s command. /When God told Jesus to die on the cross, Jesus volunteered to die.

/Verses 19-21. /There was again a division among the Jews because of these words. Many of them said, “He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?” Others said, “These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”

/Upon hearing the words of Jesus, the people were split into two groups. /That is some people believed and some people didn’t. /Some people said that Jesus is possessed, that he is crazy.

/Others said that Jesus was not demon-possessed. /He is the one who opened the eyes of the blind. /The Lord is the one who saves us. /In this way, some believed in Jesus while some denied him.

/Verse 22. /At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter,

/The Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. /The Feast of Dedication commemorates the rededication of the temple. /It was started in 165 B.C. by Judas Maccabeus. /At the time, Antiochus Epiphanes had defiled the temple.

/Judas Maccabeus rose up against the Syrian army to defeat it, and he restored the temple. /The Feast of Dedication was kept to remember this event. /Inside the temple was the colonnade of Solomon.

/Verse 24. /So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.”

The Jews said to Jesus, "If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." /Up to this point, Jesus had displayed things that would bring people to believe in him. /Still, many of the Jews did not believe in Jesus. /Their intention was not to believe in him. /Rather, they wanted to find his flaws and kill him.

/Verse 25. /Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me,

/In the presence of many people, in the temple, Jesus told them that he is Christ. /The Jews heard Jesus's words. /Jesus acted in the name of the Father. /He acted in God's power.

/Up to now, we have learned these things. /Jesus turned water into wine. /He healed the man who was sick for 38 years. /The Lord took five loaves and two fish and fed five thousand people. /He healed the blind man.

/Jesus did all these things according to God's will. /Jesus did these things to bear witness to the fact that he is Christ. /He wanted to show through these things that eternal life is found in him.

/People who see these works are capable of believing in Jesus. /Jesus clearly bore witness about it. /However, because the Pharisees were not his sheep, they did not believe in Jesus.

/There are two types of human beings. /The chosen and those who are not, /and the wheat and the weeds /Matthew 13:38. /There are sheep and there are goats, /Matthew 25:32,33. /Those who are not chosen do not believe in Jesus to the very end.

/Verse 27. /My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

/Jesus's sheep hear his voice. /The chosen people believe in Jesus and hear his voice. /The Lord's people also follow Jesus. /Jesus knows his sheep. /He knows us believers. /And his believers follow him.

/Verses 28-29. /I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

/Jesus has given us believers eternal life. /If we believe in him, we will never perish. /No one can snatch us from Jesus's hand. /Wolves may come to take us away, but Jesus protects us from the wolves.

/Our God the Father is greater than all. /No one can take us from the Father's hand. /By believing in Jesus, we have received eternal life. /No one can take that away from us. /No one can snatch us from God's hand. /God holds onto us and protects us until the end.

/Verse 30. /I and the Father are one.”

/Jesus and God the Father are one. /Jesus is God in the Trinity. /The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit make up the three Persons. /The Father is God, /the Son is God, /and the Holy Spirit is God.

/In this way, there are three Persons, but God is one. /Therefore, Jesus and God the Father are one. /At this time, the Jews picked up stones to kill Jesus.

/Verse 32. /Jesus answered them, “I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?”

/Jesus showed many good works from the Father. /He healed the man who was disabled for 38 years. /He opened the eyes of the blind man. /Jesus did such good works, but the Jews picked up stones to kill him. /In this way, the Pharisees were evil.

/Verse 33. /The Jews answered him, “It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God.”

/The Jews wanted to kill Jesus with stones. /They said that Jesus was being blasphemous. /These people did not know the truth about Jesus.

/Verses 34-35. /Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your Law, ‘I said, you are gods’? If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken—

/The Law refers to the five books of Moses, and in the broader sense, it refers to the entire Old Testament. /This verse applies Psalm 82:6. /The Bible says that those to whom the word of God came are called gods.

/Verse 36. /do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’?

/Jesus is the Son of God. /God consecrated Jesus and sent him into the world. /Christ himself said that he is God’s Son. He simply told the truth. /This isn’t blasphemy. /Rather, the Pharisees are rejecting and going against the truth.

/Verses 37-38. /If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.”

/Here, the work of the Father is the saving of souls. /Bringing our souls to life and saving them is the work of God the Father. /Through Jesus Christ, God does these works.

/God bears witness to the fact that Jesus is Christ. /If we believe that Jesus does the works of God, we can believe in Jesus. /We must believe that Jesus is in the Father.

/Also, we are able to believe that the Father is in Jesus. /We know that the Father and Jesus are one. /If we believe in Jesus, we know that God and Jesus are one.

/As Jesus said these things, the Pharisees tried to arrest him. /He escaped from their hands and left the place. /The Pharisees wanted to capture Jesus, /but the time for Jesus's death had not yet come.

/Verse 40. /He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing at first, and there he remained.

/Jesus went across the Jordan to Bethany. 1:28. /It was the place where John the Baptist first baptized.

/Verses 41-42. /And many came to him. And they said, "John did no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true." And many believed in him there.

/Many came to believe in Jesus because of John's testimony. /John the Baptist did no signs. /He with his words bore witness about Jesus. /He said about Jesus, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

/John did no signs, but he preached the word. /Even still, many came to believe in Jesus through John the Baptist. /We must not believe in Jesus because of his signs. /We need to believe in Jesus because of the words of evangelists and the words of the gospel.

/We will continue with John 11. /The title of the chapter is "Lazarus." /Here are the main points of the chapter. /First, Lazarus's death. /Verses 1-16. /Second, Jesus goes to the place where Lazarus dies. /Verses 17-37. /Third, Jesus brings Lazarus to life. /Verses 38-44. /Fourth, the outcome of bringing Lazarus to life. /Verses 45-57.

/Today's message is about Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead by the power of God. /This event bears witness to the fact that Jesus is the resurrection and the life. /By believing in Jesus, though we may die, we will come back to life when Jesus returns.

/Verse 1. Let us read. /Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

/Bethany is located 2.8 kilometers Southeast of Jerusalem. /Martha, Mary, and Lazarus were here.

/Verse 2. /It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill.

/Mary is the one who pours ointment on Jesus. /12:1. /Matthew 26:1. /Mark 14:3.

/Verse 3. /So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."

/The sisters reported to Jesus that Lazarus was ill. /It is a precious thing to pray to Jesus when we are sick.

/Verse 4. /But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

/Jesus heard that Lazarus was ill. /He said that the illness is for the glory of God. /In this world, there are illnesses that end in death and illnesses that do not end in death. /Not everyone who is sick dies.

/God saved King Hezekiah who was dying from a sickness. /There are illnesses that can be cured and some that cannot be cured. /Therefore, it is important that we pray to God when we become sick.

/Lazarus’s illness was for the glory of God. /Sometimes, the glory of God is revealed through believers’ sickness. /We can see the power of God at work. /God’s will is also fulfilled.

/Additionally, God’s movement of salvation happens. /Let’s say a member of someone’s family becomes ill. /By God’s power, the person is healed from his illness. /Afterwards, the entire family comes to believe in Jesus Christ. /Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus.

/Verse 6. /So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

/Hearing that Lazarus was ill, Jesus stayed for two more days. /Why didn’t Jesus immediately run to Lazarus? /He did this to save Lazarus after he died. /The Lord wanted to reveal the power of God.

/He did it to reveal the glory of God. /When we pray, there are times when God promptly answers our prayers. /Sometimes, God waits a long time before he answers our prayers.

/Verses 7-8. /Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?”

/Jesus was staying at a place to the east of the Jordan River. /10:40. /He told the disciples to go with him to Judea. /The disciples were worried. /Not long ago, the Jews tried to stone them.

/They feared they would be stoned to death if they went back to Judea. /The disciples did not have God’s will in mind. /They feared they would die if they went back to Judea.

/Verses 9-10. /Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.”

/Jesus is saying that it is day. /During the day, people can work hard. /When the night comes, we cannot work. /The “day” refers to the time when we have peace. /God has given us the opportunity to work.

/The night will come. /The “night” symbolizes hardships. /Jesus is arrested at night and dies on the cross. /We need to protect our faith when God has given us the day. /We need to do works of faith when God has given us the light.

/In the future, a global disaster will come. /When this time comes, the Christian church will be persecuted. /It will be night. /Before the night comes, when God has given us the opportunity, we need to do works of faith. /We must preach the gospel and be faithful.

/Verse 11. /After saying these things, he said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.”

/Jesus, talking about Lazarus who was dead, said he had fallen asleep. /The Lord says that his believers are sleeping when they are dead. /Why is the death of a believer considered to be sleep? First, life is not gone, but it remains.

/When we sleep, our life is still there. /In this way, if the believer dies, his spirit is alive. /A person’s death is the separation of the spirit and the flesh. /That is why a believer’s spirit goes to heaven when he dies, /and his flesh returns to the dust.

/When Jesus returns, believers’ spirits and bodies will combine to resurrect as a spiritual being. /Therefore, when a believer dies, his spirit goes to heaven, /and his flesh returns to the dust.

/The believer’s spirit has life. /His body will come to life as well when Jesus comes back. /Thus “death” is like moving to another place. /It is moving from a shabby house on earth to a nice house in heaven. /Why else does Jesus say that a believer is sleeping and not dead?

/After we fall asleep, we wake up the next morning. /In this way, believers who believe in Jesus will resurrect during Jesus’s second coming. /Jesus said that he will go and awaken Lazarus. /He means that he will bring the dead Lazarus back to life.

/Verses 12-13. /The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep.

/The disciples did not know much about resurrection. /That is why they only considered things in the flesh. /They said, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” /Jesus

described Lazarus's death like he was taking rest in sleep. /In verse 14, Jesus makes it known that Lazarus is dead.

/Verse 15. /and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

/Jesus said, "For your sake I am glad that I was not there." /The reason is Jesus intended to bring the dead Lazarus to life. /Lazarus died and was put in the tomb. Jesus went to bring him to life.

/Jesus shows that he brings the dead to life. /In verse 16, Thomas says, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." /Thomas did not understand the spiritual truth. /Jesus approached Lazarus's tomb. /Lazarus had been dead for four days.

/Verse 19. /and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother.

/Many people came to comfort Martha and Mary.

/Verse 20. /So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house.

/Verse 21. /Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

/Martha met Jesus. /She said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." /Martha knew that Jesus had the power to heal any sickness.

/However, she believed that even now, Jesus would do something good. /Martha believed that the Lord would do something good if she asked him.

/Verses 23-24. /Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

/Jesus said to Martha, "Your brother will rise again." /Martha did not believe that Lazarus would rise immediately. /She believed he would rise on the last day.

/Jesus usually taught his disciples that believers would resurrect on the last day. /Martha believed what Jesus said. /She believed that her brother would resurrect from the dead when Jesus returns.

/Thus it is important for us believers to correctly learn. /A believer believes according to his proper learning. /It is important that believers learn deeply about the truth. /But Jesus is saying that Lazarus will come to life immediately.

/Verse 25. /Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,

/Jesus is teaching us a profound truth. /Jesus is the resurrection and the life. /He himself is the resurrection. /Jesus will now die on the cross and resurrect in three days.

/Jesus also will resurrect other people who are dead. /We believers receive eternal life through Jesus. /Our spirits come alive. /Furthermore, our bodies will resurrect when Jesus returns.

/Jesus said that whoever believes in him, though he die, shall live. /Whoever believes in Jesus, though his body dies, sees his soul live forever. /Believers are born again through the word and the Holy Spirit.

/Believers have become living spirits. /John 5:24 /1 Peter 1:23 /Ephesians 2:5,6 /Though the believer’s body may die, the soul is united with Christ. /Believers have received the life of Christ. /Therefore, believers have eternal life.

/Verse 26. /and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

/This is speaking of souls that are alive and believe. /A soul that is alive is a soul that is reborn. /The soul of someone who is not born again does not know Jesus. /If a believer is born again and has a born again spirit, his spirit will never die.

/Verse 27. /She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

/Martha immediately believed the truth that Jesus had taught her. /She believed what she learned, and she obeyed.

/Verse 28. /When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.

/Martha went back and said to her sister Mary, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”

/Verses 29-30. /And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him.

/Hearing that Jesus was calling for her, Mary rose quickly and went to Jesus. /She met Jesus at the village entrance.

/Verse 31. /When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

/The Jews who were comforting Mary followed her, thinking she was going to the tomb.

/Verse 32. /Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

/Mary met Jesus. /She bowed before him. /She said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” /Mary believed that Jesus is all-powerful.

/Verse 33. /When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.

/Seeing Mary and the Jews cry, Jesus was moved in his spirit. /He was also greatly troubled. /Jesus is the resurrection and the life. /He had come before the people, but they were crying.

/The Jews thought of everything in the physical sense. /They did not know Jesus’s power. /That is why Jesus was deeply moved in his spirit. /Jesus cries in verse 35.

/Jesus weeps three times in the Bible. /The first time is when Jesus groans and weeps over Jerusalem. /Luke 19:41 /The second is when Jesus weeps as he prays in the Garden of Gethsemane. /Hebrews 5:7

/And Jesus weeps in our message today. /Why did Jesus weep here? /He wept because the others were crying when the Christ, who is the resurrection and the life, was among them.

/Mary and Martha wept because of Lazarus’s death. /Jesus wept because he felt sorry for their lack of faith. /The Lord of life was present with them.

/However, the people did not believe in Jesus, but they cried over Lazarus’s death. /Jesus felt pity for their lack of faith.

/Verses 36-37. /So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”

/The Jews did not understand Jesus. /They had seen Jesus heal those who were sick. /They said, “Could not he have kept this man from dying?” /The Jews were always centered on the things of the flesh.

/This concludes our 9th lecture on the book of John. /Thank you.