

“I AM The Resurrection and The Life”

John 11:25-26

Introduction

Venezuela Earthquake Response

- June 24, a major earthquake struck the country of Venezuela.
- More than 1,700 deaths, 12,000 displaced people, and officials still confirming the number of those missing.
- Sending 400,000 Yen from the Japan & World Missions Offering through Send Relief.

Let’s pray!

Jesus says,

1. I AM The Bread Of Life. (John 6:35) … Dec. 27 & 28, 2025.
2. I AM The Light Of The World. (John 8:12) … Jan 31 & Feb.. 1, 2026.
3. I AM The Gate. (John 10:9 NIV) …Feb 21 & 22, 2026.
4. I AM The Good Shepherd. (John 10:11) … May 2 & 3, 2026.
5. I AM The Resurrection and The Life. (John 11:25-26)...**Today’s Message.**
6. I AM The Way, The Truth, and The Life. (John 14:6)
7. I AM The Vine. (John 15:5)

Jesus, the "I AM"

- The phrase “I am” is a direct translation of “*ego eimi*” in Greek.
- God explicitly reveals his name, "I AM," in the Old Testament, Exod 3:13-15.
- Jesus is literally equating himself with God, declaring himself to be God, and plainly stating that the "I AM" in Old Testament times is here with you and speaking to you right now.

Martha and Mary Send a Message to Jesus (John11:1–3)

[1]Now a man was sick—Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary
and her sister Martha. [2] Mary was the one who anointed the Lord
with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair, and it was her
brother Lazarus who was sick. [3] So the sisters sent a message to
him: "Lord, the one you love is sick."

- The name "Lazarus" means "God is my helper."
- What do his sisters do? They seek help for their brother.

Jesus Chooses to Delay His Visit After Hearing about Lazarus' Sickness (John 11:4–7)

[4] When Jesus heard it, he said, "This sickness will not end in death
but is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified
through it." [5] Now Jesus loved Martha, her sister, and Lazarus. [6] So
when he heard that he was sick, he stayed two more days in the
place where he was. [7] Then after that, he said to the disciples, "Let's
go to Judea again."

- We see here the redemptive purpose of "sickness."
- Jesus says, "This sickness will not end in death but is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

Jesus Reminds His Disciples that He is the Light of the World (John 11:8–10)

[8] "Rabbi," the disciples told him, "just now the Jews tried to stone
you, and you're going there again?" [9] "Aren't there twelve hours in
a day?" Jesus answered. "If anyone walks during the day, he doesn't
stumble, because he sees the light of this world. [10] But if anyone
walks during the night, he does stumble, because the light is not in
him."

- Not too long ago, when they were in Jerusalem for the Festival of Dedication, the Jews tried to stone Jesus.
- Jesus answers their question with a question, reminding them of the number of hours in a day.
- On a deeper level, Jesus uses the occasion to remind his disciples that he is "the light of the world" (John 8:12).
- D.A. Carson writes, "As long as they have him, for the full twelve hours of their 'daylight' they should perform the works assigned them. The time would come, all too soon, when the darkness of his departure would make such work impossible." (source: The Gospel According to John, D.A. Carson, 409)

Jesus Knows that Lazarus has Died (John 11:11–16)

[11] He said this, and then he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I'm on my way to wake him up." [12] Then the disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will get well." [13] Jesus, however, was speaking about his death, but they thought he was speaking about natural sleep. [14] So Jesus then told them plainly, "Lazarus has died. [15] I'm glad for you that I wasn't there so that you may believe. But let's go to him." [16] Then Thomas (called "Twin") said to his fellow disciples, "Let's go too so that we may die with him."

- Jesus is glad that he wasn't at the place where Lazarus lost his life.
- Thomas probably does not know what he is talking about when he says, "that we may die with him."
- D.A. Carson points out that "the death Jesus had to face as the Lamb of God (1:29, 36) could not possibly be shared by his disciples." (source: The Gospel According to John, D.A. Carson, 410)

Jesus Finds Lazarus has been Buried for Four Days (John 11:17–19)

[17] When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. [18] Bethany was near Jerusalem (less than two miles

away). [19] Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother.

- In Jewish burial practice, the deceased is buried on the very same day the person dies.
- Grief was often expressed through loud cries and wails, usually shared in communal settings.
- Employed professional mourners to sustain the noise and tears.
- Even the poorest families hire at least two flute players and a professional woman to wail.

Martha Meets Jesus and Expresses Her Grief and Faith in Him (John 11:20–22)

[20] As soon as Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, but Mary remained seated in the house. [21] Then Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn't have died. [22] Yet even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."

- In a sense, she tells Jesus, "Why did you not come immediately after receiving our message? Why did you delay your trip?"
- She does not lose her faith in her Lord, despite losing her brother to death.

Jesus Assures Martha of Her Brother's Coming Back to Life (John 11:23–24)

[23] "Your brother will rise again," Jesus told her. [24] Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

- Jesus is thinking of the very near future—in just a moment—while Martha is thinking of the very distant future—the resurrection of the dead at the last day.
- One is almost immediate, and the other is far distant.

Jesus Reveals that He is the "I am, the Resurrection and the Life" (John 11:25–27)

[25] Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me, even if he dies, will live. [26] Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" [27] "Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who comes into the world."

- The "I am" who is here with you is "the resurrection and the life."
- "Wherever I am, there is life. Because of my very presence right here and right now, Lazarus will live again."

What does Jesus mean by these two statements?
"**The one who believes in me, even if he dies, will live. Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.**"

- **The Purely Spiritual View:** "Whoever believes in me, though he were spiritually dead, yet shall he become spiritually alive. And whoever is spiritually alive and continues to believe in me shall never die spiritually."

- **The Physical –Spiritual View:** "He who believes in me, even though he should die physically, yet he will live physically [that is, there will be a final resurrection]. And whosoever is spiritually alive and believes in me shall not die spiritually."

- **The Purely Physical View:** "He who believes in me, though he shall have died physically by the time of my return, yet shall he be raised. And whoever is a believer and is still living at the time of my return shall never die physically but shall be caught up to heaven."

Mary Runs to Jesus, expressing Her Grief, and Jesus is Deeply Moved (John 11:28–37)

- In John 11:28–37, Mary learns that Jesus has come to Bethany.
- In her grief, she runs to Jesus.
- Jesus is deeply moved and weeps.

Jesus, after thanking the Father, Raises Lazarus from the Grave (John 11:38–44)

- In John 11: 38-44, Jesus arrives at the tomb where Lazarus is buried.
- He orders the stone to be removed from the tomb.
- Martha is concerned that there is already a stench because her brother has been dead for four days.

- Jesus reminds Martha of their earlier conversation: "Didn't I tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" (John 11:40)
- "Father, I thank you that you heard me. I know that you always hear me, but because of the crowd standing here I said this, so that they may believe you sent me" (John 11:41b–42).
- Jesus calls out Lazarus from the tomb, miraculously raising him from the dead.
- He then orders the crowd to take off the cloth that wraps him.

Some Implications

1. JESUS IS THE AUTHOR OF LIFE.

2. SICKNESS AND DEATH ARE A PART OF A BROKEN AND FALLEN WORLD.

3. OUR RESURRECTION IS IMMORTAL IN NATURE.

4. THE OBJECT OF OUR BELIEF MUST BE THE GLORY OF GOD.

5. JESUS UNDERSTANDS OUR PAIN AND SORROW.

6. JESUS CAN TRANSFORM OUR LIVES REGARDLESS OF OUR SINFULNESS.

Conclusion

Jesus says, **“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me, even if he dies, will live. Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” (John 11:25–26)**

Let’s pray.

Jo Kaminaga (Joel)
Tokyo Baptist Church
July 4 &5, 2026

(Note: All Scriptures are from CSB.)

- Good News Class every Sunday at 11:00 am. This is mainly for anyone who wants to know more about the good news of Jesus.

- JOY Cafe is open for Gospel Sharing and Prayer every Sunday, after the 9:00 am and 11:00 am worship services.

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