

JESUS IS GOD, HE IS MY FRIEND

The I AM Series #9

March 1st, 2026

TEXT: John 11:28-38

CONSIDER THIS: Yes, the shortest verse in the Bible is John 11:35, “Jesus wept.” But the implications of those two words are massive. Christian, the “**I AM** the resurrection and the life” has fought for you, and He has conquered. It is good to be a Christian.

Q: WHY WASN'T JESUS HAPPY?

Put yourself in Jesus' place (and we say that with all due reverence and respect!). In John 11:4, 11 Jesus knew Lazarus would become a great miracle of resurrection, bringing joy to Mary and Martha and glory to God. Of course He would have a sense of compassion for Mary and Martha's sorrow, but He knew their sorrow would be over very soon and be replaced with awe and joy. Knowing what was about to happen (and He was the one who would do it), what would we expect Jesus's mood and behavior to be like? But what actually happened?

*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**. (John 11:33)*

*Jesus **wept**. (John 11:35)*

*Then Jesus, **deeply moved** again, came to the tomb. (John 11:38)*

Christian, when you understand Jesus's emotions in John 11:33-38 you will understand that He is the “**I AM the resurrection and the life**” and He is your friend

- The Jews of Jesus's day mourned death LOUDLY. Mary and the other Jews of 11:33 were weeping by crying and wailing loudly. For some mourners it was simply habit, or being a good neighbor, although for Mary and Martha their weeping/loud wailing was devastatingly heartfelt.

Jesus did not **weep** like they did, He groaned in anger = “deeply moved in His spirit” (11:33). In 11:35 “Jesus wept” is better translated, “He silently shed tears”. The Greek word that describes Jesus's weeping is a different word than that used for everyone else.

- In that moment of Jesus shedding tears and inwardly groaning in anger, one of the great turning points in all of history takes place.
 1. He hears and observes, with deep compassion, the anguish of His friends

2. He sees the despair of the human condition faced with the inevitability of death
3. He remembers Genesis 1:31 (see John 1:1 and Colossian 1:16-18) and Job 38:4-7
4. Since the moment Adam sinned in the garden (Genesis 3), Jesus Christ has watched creation groan (Romans 8:19-23) and death and sin prevail over humanity and wreak devastation

The time has come. To Jerusalem the “**I AM** the good shepherd”, “**I AM** the resurrection and the life” will journey. Death, you are not coming for Him, He is coming for you. Your days are numbered. He will finish this fight, and you will be destroyed.

NOTE: Death is far more than the cessation of biological function. Ultimately death means separation. Spiritual death is separation from God. The world of Genesis 1:31 was not meant to include fear, worry, anxiety, despair, depression and tears. None of these things will be experienced in Heaven because we are in the home prepared for us by the “**I AM** the resurrection and the life.”

- The resurrection of Lazarus terrified the religious leaders (John 11:45-53).

Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand (11:55)

- On earlier occasions Jesus had avoided attempts to make Him King (John 2:23-25; 6:15) or to kill Him (John 5:18; 7:25-26; 8:59; 10:39). On all these occasions Jesus knew His time had not yet come. But John 11:33-38 is the catalyst = now His time had come (see John 12:27-33; 13:1).
- Death, your days are numbered. See Isaiah 25:7-9 and I Corinthians 15:21-26, 54-57.
- “**I AM** the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep” ... “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.” (John 10:11, 18)
- “**I AM** the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me though he die, yet shall he live; and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die.” (John 11:25-26)

HE IS GOD AND HE IS MY FRIEND