

Therefore when Mary came to where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you would have been here, my brother wouldn't have died."

*When **Jesus** therefore **saw her weeping**, and **the Jews weeping** who came with her, **he groaned in the spirit**, and **was troubled**, and said, "Where have you laid him?"*

They told him, "Lord, come and see."

Jesus wept.

*The Jews therefore said, "**See how much affection** he had for him!"*

*Some of them said, "**Couldn't this man**, who opened the eyes of him who was blind, have also **kept this man from dying?**" (John 11:32-37)*

*The sisters therefore sent to him, saying, "Lord, behold, **he for whom you have great affection** is sick." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This sickness is not to death, but for the glory of God, that God's Son may be glorified by it."*

*Now **Jesus loved Martha**, and **her sister**, and **Lazarus**. When therefore he heard that he was sick, he stayed two days in the place where he was. (John 11:3-6)*

Jesus answered, "Aren't there twelve hours of daylight?"

*If a man **walks in the day**, he **doesn't stumble**, because **he sees the light of this world**.*

*But if a man **walks in the night**, he **stumbles**, because **the light isn't in him**." (John 11:9-10)*

*The multitude answered him, "**We have heard out of the law** that the Christ remains forever. **How do you say**, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up?' **Who is this Son of Man?**"*

*Jesus therefore said to them, "**Yet a little while the light is with you**. Walk while you have the light, that **darkness doesn't overtake** you.*

*He who **walks in the darkness doesn't know** where he is going.*

*While you have the light, **believe in the light**, that you may become **children of light**."*

Jesus said these things, and he departed and hid himself from them. (John 12:34-36)

What is the difference between walking **in the light** and walking **in darkness**?

What do we see in **this story** about Lazarus that would **alert us** as to how to **discern this difference**?

Some people saw love, open **affection**, **identification** with those **grieving**.

Others **defaulted to criticism**, questioning His motives, giving expression to **negative sentiments** that **cast doubt on His integrity** and genuineness, **impugning His motives**.

*Or **do you despise** the riches of his **kindness** and **forbearance** and **patience**? Do you not realize that **God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance**? (Romans 2:4 NRSV)*

What is our reaction to evidence intended to awaken trust in God's good disposition towards us?

What is the **flavor of our disposition**, especially when **evidence** seems to **incriminate** God's integrity?

***This is the message** which we have heard from him and announce to you, that **God is light**, and in him is **no darkness at all**.*

*If we say that we have **fellowship** with him and **walk in the darkness**, we **lie**, and **don't tell the truth**.*

*But if we **walk in the light**, as he is in the light, we have **fellowship with one another**, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, **cleanses us from all sin**. (1 John 1:5-7)*