

**JOHN 11:43ff.**  
July 24 1988  
**ROME GEORGIA**  
**December 14, 2014**

There was quite a controversy (1988) over Universal Pictures Movie "The Last Temptation Of Jesus." It is a blasphemous distortion of the historical record that depicts Christ as a whoremonger and the Apostle John as a homosexual. Needless to say, it has created quite a stir in the Christian community. But attacks on the deity of Christ and the veracity of the apostolic record are nothing new.

There is a cartoon in a prime-time network slot. I have never watched a single episode of "Family Guy" but I have read this week that they plan an upcoming episode called the 2,000 year old virgin which portrays Jesus as a whoremonger.

"The [episode description explains](#): "After running into Jesus at the Quahog Mall, Peter is stunned to discover that the Son of God is still a virgin. So, he enlists Quagmire and Cleveland to help him throw Jesus the best birthday ever by finding a way to help him become a man." *From Glenn Beck, The Blaze TV newsletter.*

"The [atheist, Robert Ingersoll](#) often directed his cynical arrows of doubt and ridicule against this significant passage in the Word Of God (Jn. 11:43ff ". . . Lazarus, come forth."). Once however he had to yield ground when challenged by a Christian who refused to swallow his stale atheistic objections. Ingersoll himself said:

"I was nonplused only once, and that was when I took occasion to show that the resurrection of Lazarus was **probably a planned affair** to bolster the **waning fortunes of Jesus**. Lazarus was to take sick and die, and his sisters were to bury him. He was to feign death till Jesus should come and say "Lazarus, come forth? For emphasis, I asked if anyone could tell me **why Jesus said, "LAZARUS come forth?"**

A [white haired man arose](#) and confidently replied, "**Yes sir, I can tell you. If my blessed Lord had not said "Lazarus", the entire grave yard of Bethany would have come out of their tombs to greet Him!**"

Ingersoll's postulations were as false as they were Satanic. Universal Pictures Movie "The Last Temptation Of Jesus." is no different. Family Guy holiday episode 2014 is no different. **There have always been attacks on our Savior and His Deity and there always will be - WE ARE IN A WARFARE.**

THE REVIVAL OF LAZARUS IN **V.43** IS NOT THE SAME AS THE RESURRECTION OF **vv. 25-26**. BUT IT IS A **DEMONSTRATION OF THE POTENTIAL FOR RESURRECTION.**

***When the Shepherd calls, His sheep hear his voice.***

**John 10:3 " . . . he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.**

**Lazarus** was **RAISED, RESTORED, REVIVED.**

**We shall be RESURRECTED.** cf. **I Cor. 15:20-23, 35-45** then **46-57**

**1Co 15:20** But **now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.**

**21** For since by man *came* death, by man *came* also the resurrection of the dead.

**22** For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

**23** But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

**RESURRECTED BODIES ARE:**

sown in corruption - raised in incorruption

sown in dishonor - raised in glory

sown in weakness, raised in power

that sown as a natural body - adapted to the soul - is raised

a spiritual body, i.e. adapted to the human spirit."

**THE TRANSFORMED RESURRECTED BODY WILL BE LIMITLESS IN POWER, INFINITE IN GLORY, ETERNAL IN ENDURANCE AND ADAPTED TO THE SPIRIT."** LSC IV 124-125.

**TO MAINTAIN WARFARE - LIFE IS REQUIRED.** IF ALL ARE DEAD - THE WAR IS OVER. IN THE BODY OF CHRIST - THERE IS A **CONSTANT RENEWAL PROCESS GOING ON. NEW LIFE - REVIVAL.** WE BECOME DEADENED BY THE DISTRACTIONS OF THIS WAR. HARDENED TO THE BATTLE AROUND US. WE NEED REVIVAL TO CONTINUE THE FIGHT.

(NOTE 12/72014 – WWII war movies always point out that the battle hardened soldiers are always loath to get to know the “replacement” soldiers that are assigned to their squad. There is always a higher attrition rate for the replacements because the lack the “battle hardening” that the veterans consider second nature.

Often, as is the case with people like Joel O’steen, the second generation Christian is not as strong as their parent. But keep in mind, there are also Franklin Grahams out there who do become battle hardened after the setbacks of life . . . )

THE STORY OF LAZARUS IS A CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF:

- I. THE PREREQUISITES OF REVIVAL
- II. THE RESULTS OF REVIVAL

#### I. THE PREREQUISITES FOR REVIVAL

- 1. A WILLINGNESS TO RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD 43-44a  
READ JN. 11:43-44a

And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, **Lazarus, come forth.**  
And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: . . . JN. 11:43-44a

#### GOD SPOKE - LAZARUS RESPONDED!

WHAT IF HE HAD PREFERRED INSTEAD TO REMAIN IN THE **BOSOM OF ABRAHAM?** HE WAS AT EASE - ASLEEP - RESTING - DEAD! WHY SHOULD HE RESPOND AT ALL? LET SOMEONE ELSE ANSWER THE CALL OF THE SAVIOR. (REMEMBER: **the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. John 10:4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.**

#### BUT LAZARUS DID RESPOND - AND THERE WAS REVIVAL!

**41-42** “....but because of the people which stand by I said *it*, **that they may believe**”

JESUS tells us that the events that transpired were done with a view toward allowing those who stood by to know and to understand that IT WAS GOD WHO WAS WORKING AND THEREFORE - **IT WAS DONE TO BRING GLORY TO THE NAME OF GOD**

INTERESTING PASSAGE OF SCRIPTURE IN **REV. 3:19-20 and v.22 - ADDRESSED TO THE CHURCH!**

**Revelation 3:19** As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

**3:20** Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

**3:22** To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. HE THAT HATH AN EAR, let him hear what the **SPIRIT SAYETH UNTO THE CHURCHES**

1. A WILLINGNESS TO RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD 43-44A

2. A WILLINGNESS TO WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE 44B

"LOOSE HIM AND LET HIM GO"

WE CANNOT SERVE THE RISEN SAVIOR WHILE WEARING THE GRAVECLOTHES OF DEATH!

Eph. 4:21-24 PUT OFF - PUT ON. . .

- 4:21 If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus:
- 22 That ye **put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;**
- 23 And be **renewed in the spirit of your mind;**
- 24 And that ye **put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.**

COL. 3:1-5

- Col 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, **seek those things which are above**, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
- 2 **Set your affection on things above**, not on things on the earth.
- 3 **For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.**
- 4 When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.
- 5 Mortify (**put to death**) therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

THERE IS A CONSCIOUS EFFORT INVOLVED IN BOTH ACTIONS!

## II . THE RESULTS OF REVIVAL

1. MANY WILL BELIEVE ON THE NAME OF JESUS - 45

Elisha and the Shunamite woman's son. II K. 4:32-35

Elisha and the man whose body was lowered onto his bones ". . . and when the man was let down and touched the bones of Elisha, he was **REVIVED**, and stood up on his feet."

WE ARE NOT TOLD THE EFFECT OF THE OLD TESTAMENT REVIVALS.  
HOWEVER THERE ARE SEVERAL REVIVALS IN THE N.T. AS WELL.

MATT. 9:25 the daughter of that certain ruler. But when the people were put forth, he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose. And **THE FAME HEREOF WENT ABROAD INTO ALL THAT LAND.**

WHEN THERE IS TRUE REVIVAL - OTHERS WILL HEAR ABOUT IT.

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Luke 7:12 the only son of a widow turn here 1 2 - 1 7

- 12 And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her.
- 13 When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep."
- 14 Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried *him* stood still. And He said, "**Young man, I say to you, arise.**"
- 15 So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.

16 Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us"; and, "God has visited His people."

17 And **this report about Him went throughout all Judea and all the surrounding region.**

## WHEN THERE IS TRUE REVIVAL - GLORY IS BROUGHT TO THE NAME OF GOD.

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ACTS 14:19 PAUL STONED AT LYSTRA T U R N A N D R E A D 19 - 21

14:19 they stoned Paul *and* dragged *him* out of the city, supposing him to be dead.

14:21 And when they had **preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples**, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch,

14:22 **strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting *them* to continue in the faith**, and *saying*, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."

## WHEN THERE IS TRUE REVIVAL - THE GOSPEL WILL BE PREACHED WITH BOLDNESS

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ACTS 9:36-42 PETER AND TABITHA.

36 At Joppa there was a certain disciple named **Tabitha**, which is translated **Dorcas**. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did.

37 But it happened in those days that she **became sick and died**. When they had washed her, they laid *her* in an upper room.

40 But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.

41 Then he gave her *his* hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive.

**ACTS 9:42** And it was known throughout all Joppa; and **MANY BELIEVED** in the Lord.

## WHEN THERE IS TRUE REVIVAL - MEN AND WOMEN ARE BROUGHT TO A SAVING KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

### 2. THERE WILL BE OPPOSITION TO THE CAUSE OF CHRIST. 46-57.

I John 3:13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.

John 15:18 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.

Mark 13:13 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Luke 6:22 Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.

Christ came - He worked the works of God - He dwelt amongst men - He revived the dead BUT

John 15:24 If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: **BUT NOW HAVE THEY BOTH SEEN AND HATED BOTH ME AND MY FATHER.**

"oh come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord." # 145, O Come All Ye Faithful

## **O, Death, as sung by Ralph Stanley,**

O, Death

O, Death

Won't you spare me over til another year

**Well what is this that I can't see**

**With ice cold hands takin' hold of me**

**Well I am death, none can excel**

**I'll open the door to heaven or hell**

Whoa, death someone would pray

Could you wait to call me another day

The children prayed, the preacher preached

Time and mercy is out of your reach

I'll fix your feet til you can't walk

I'll lock your jaw til you can't talk

I'll close your eyes so you can't see

This very hour, come and go with me

I'm death I come to take the soul

Leave the body and leave it cold

To draw up the flesh off of the frame

Dirt and worm both have a claim

O, Death

O, Death

Won't you spare me over til another year

My mother came to my bed

Placed a cold towel upon my head

My head is warm my feet are cold

Death is a-movin upon my soul

**Oh, death how you're treatin' me**

**You've close my eyes so I can't see**

**Well you're hurtin' my body**

**You make me cold**

**You run my life right outta my soul**

**Oh death please consider my age**

**Please don't take me at this stage**

**My wealth is all at your command**

**If you will move your icy hand**

**Oh the young, the rich or poor**

**Hunger like me you know**

**No wealth, no ruin, no silver no gold**

**Nothing satisfies me but your soul**

O, death

O, death

Wont you spare me over til another year

Wont you spare me over til another year

Wont you spare me over til another year

From Wiersbe: p. 137

The old testament teachings on death and the resurrection is not clear or complete. It is as if it is in the “shadows.” Some passages in Psalms and Ecclesiastes almost indicate that death is the final chapter and there is not afterlife – passages that many cultists and others like to turn to in order to confuse the weak. But when they do, they ignore the clear teachings of the NT, After all, it is not David or Solomon who **2Ti 1:10** but has now been revealed by the appearing of our **Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,**

Jesus Christ took doctrine out of a book – and put it into a person – Himself **“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 11:25**  
We are not saved by a doctrine – or a teaching – but by the Savior.

“When you are sick – you want a Doctor – not a medical book.

When you are being sued – you want a lawyer – not a law book”

“When you face your last enemy – death – you want the Savior – not a doctrine written in a book. In Christ – every doctrine is made personal

**1Co 1:30** But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—

**1Co 1:31** that, as it is written, "HE WHO GLORIES, LET HIM GLORY IN THE LORD.

Jesus affirmed both our future resurrection and the possibility of our present escape from death.

compare 1 thes 4: 13 18

**Joh 11:25** Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:**

**Joh 11:26** **And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?**

Death and Decay go together – ALL ARE DEAD – BUT SOME ARE MORE DECAYED THAN OTHERS