A scroll with a light beige background and a brown border. The scroll is unrolled, showing a central area with text. The text is in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The scroll has four decorative rollers at the corners.

**"I am the resurrection and  
the life. He who believes in  
me will live, even though he  
dies;  
and whoever lives and  
believes in me will never  
die. Do you believe this?"**

John 11:1 ¶ Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

2 This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.

3 So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

4 When he heard this, Jesus said, "**This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it.**"

5 **Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.**



# *God's Comfort in the Purpose of Death*

- *DO WE UNDERSTAND HIS PURPOSES?*



6 Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days.

7 Then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

8 "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews tried to stone you, and yet you are going back there?"

9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? A man who walks by day will not stumble, for he sees by this world's light.

10 It is when he walks by night that he stumbles, for he has no light."

11 After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

12 His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better."

13 Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

14 So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead,

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

16 Then Thomas (called Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."



# *God's Challenge in the Prospect of Death*

- *ARE WE WALKING IN THE NIGHT OR LIGHT?*



17 ¶ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

18 Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem,  
19 and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother.

20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

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

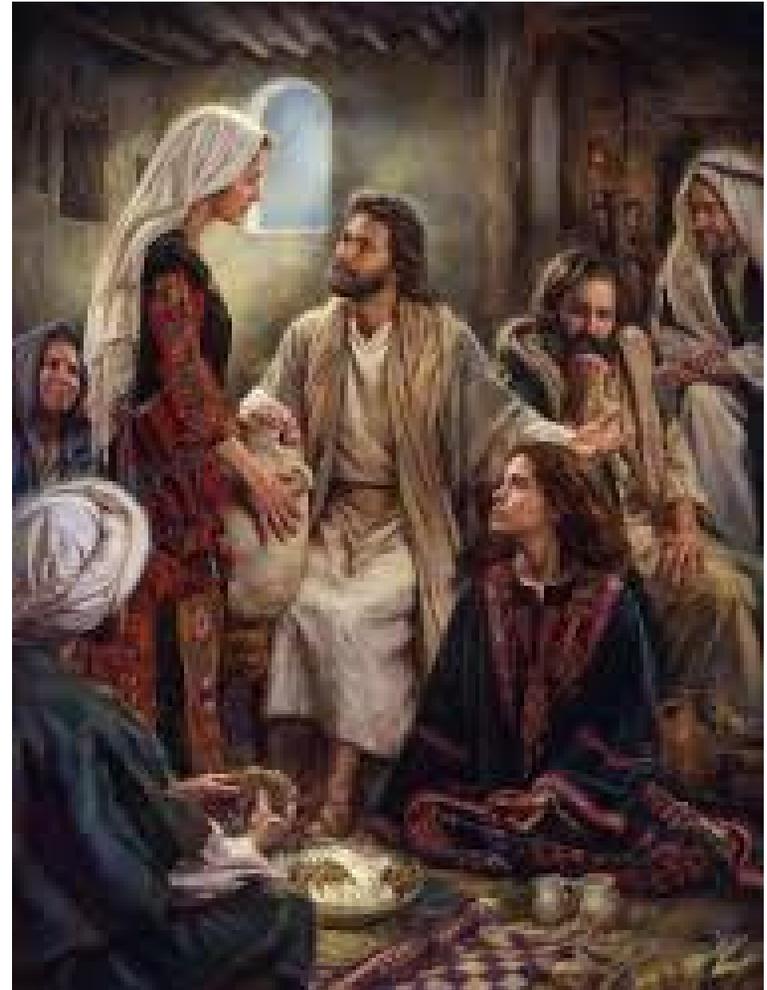
22 But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

24 Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

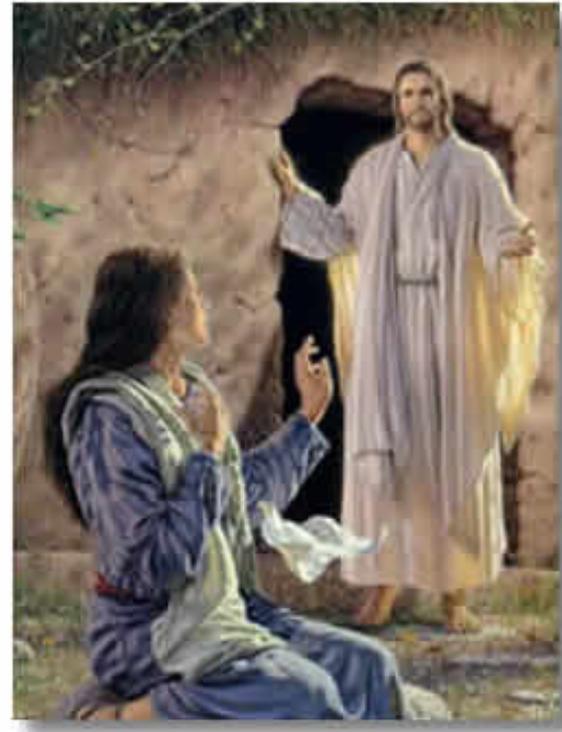
25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;

26 and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"



# *Jesus claim to be our resurrection and life...*

- Do we believe in Him even when....?*



John 6:35 Then Jesus declared, "**I am the bread of life. He who comes to me** will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

38 For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.

39 And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, **but raise them up at the last day.**

**49 Your forefathers ate the manna in the desert, yet they died.**

**50 But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die.**

**51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."**

John 10: 7 Therefore Jesus said again, "**I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep.**

8 All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.

9 I am the gate; **whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.**

10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come **that they may have life, and have it to the full.**



John 8: 12 ¶ When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "**I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.**"

21 ¶ Once more Jesus said to them, "**I am going away**, and you will look for me, and you will die in your sin. Where I go, you cannot come."

22 This made the Jews ask, "Will he kill himself? Is that why he says, 'Where I go, you cannot come'?"

58 "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "**before Abraham was born, I am!**"

John 10:14 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—  
15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

17 The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life— only to take it up again.

18 No-one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

19 ¶ At these words the Jews were again divided.

20 Many of them said, "He is demon-possessed and raving mad. Why listen to him?"

21 But others said, "These are not the sayings of a man possessed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

22 ¶ Then came the Feast of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter,  
23 and Jesus was in the temple area walking in Solomon's Colonnade.

24 The Jews gathered round him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."

25 Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me,

26 but you do not believe because you are not my sheep.

27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no-one can snatch them out of my hand.



**"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"**

