

Death Stalks the Source of Life

John 11:45-57

Introduction: Few places in the Bible show our stubborn unbelief in the face of overwhelming evidence as the aftermath following the raising of Lazarus from the dead. What further proof of God's power could you want than to smell the stench of the rotting body as the stone was rolled from the tomb, hear Jesus' loud command, and then see the formerly dead man come out from the tomb—still bound in his grave clothes! Yet, some who witnessed this spectacle went away to inform Jesus' enemies so that they could intensify their plans to have Him arrested and executed!

Reports of Lazarus' resurrection circulate (vs. 45-46)

The dangerous dilemma for the religious Divas (vs. 47-48)

The High Priest's "final solution" (vs. 49-50, 53)

God's ultimate plan overrules all to offer Salvation to all (vs. 51-52)

Jesus goes underground with precise timing (vs. 54)

The expectations of the masses. (vs. 55-56)

The dangerous dragnet of the High Priests. (vs. 57)

Conclusion/Application

1. All men today are still divided into two camps.

2. The Camp of Caiaphas.

3. The Camp of Christ-seekers
 - a. Examine the evidence with an open mind.

 - b. Seek Jesus personally.

 - c. Believe that the death of Jesus is the only remedy for the forgiveness of all men.

 - d. Believe that Christ's resurrection guarantees the glowing hope of your personal bodily resurrection and gift of eternal life.