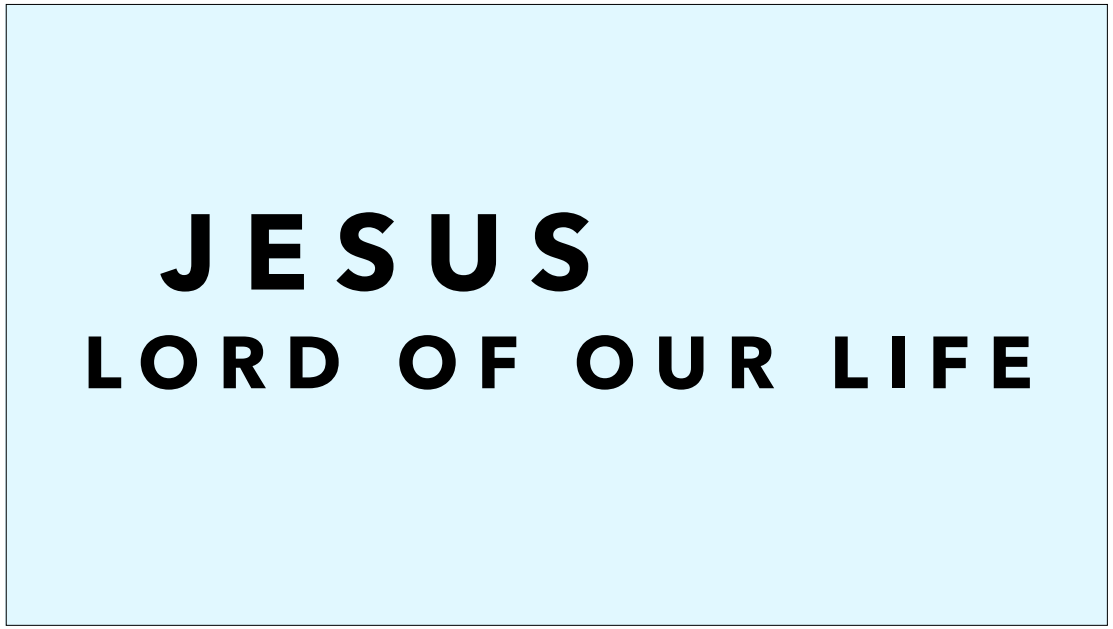


this past week, stephen hawking passed away. he was an atheist who was more convinced in the existence of aliens, then the belief in a personal God. And though he saw the beauty of the universe, and physics and science, he struggled to believe that God would know him.

11.1 Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. 3 So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." 4 But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

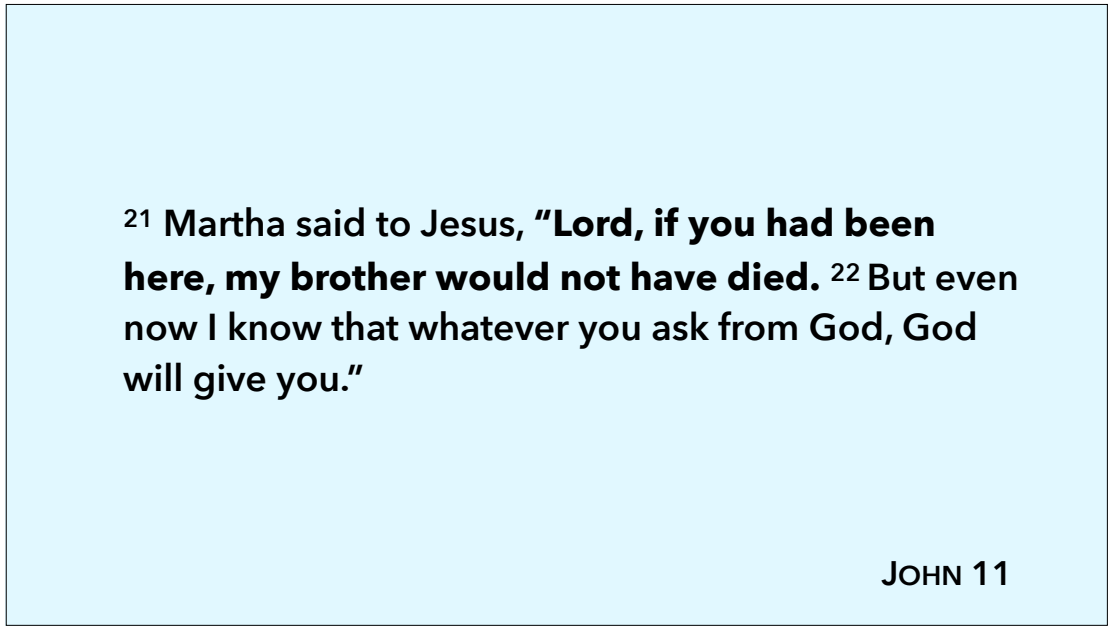
JOHN 11

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17 Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18 Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, 19 and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. 20 So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house.

JOHN 11

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21 Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.”

23 Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”
24 Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again
in the resurrection on the last day.” 25 Jesus said to
her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever
believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,
26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall
never die. Do you believe this?” 27 She said to
him,“Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ,
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JOHN 11

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Know with your brain

28 When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." 29 And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. 31 When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

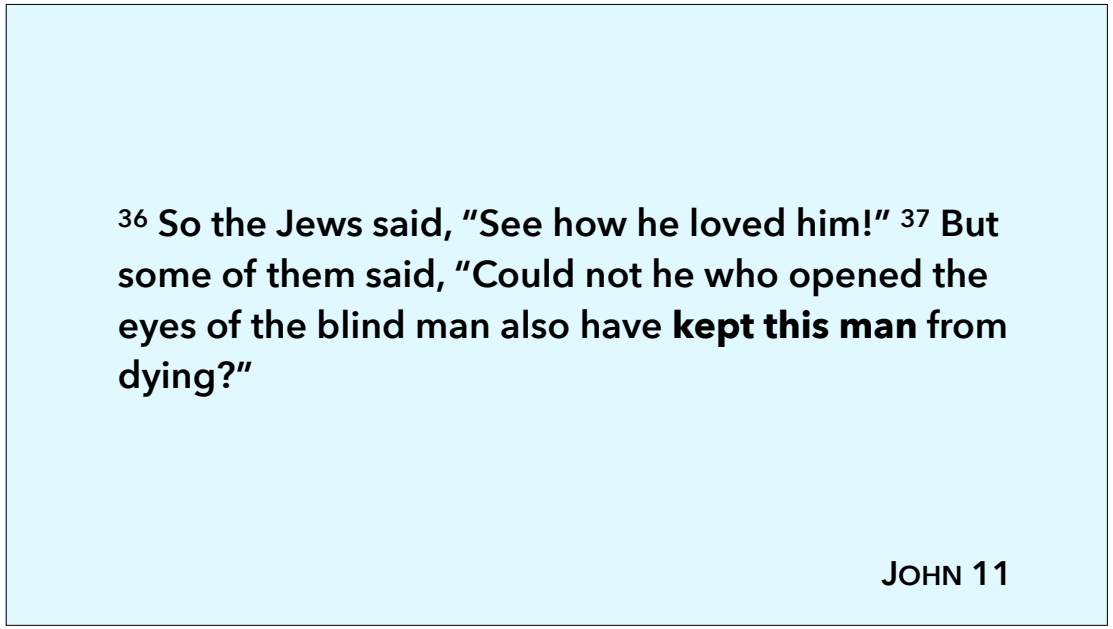
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32 Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him,"Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."
33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. 34 And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see."
35 Jesus wept.

JOHN 11

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35 Jesus wept.



36 So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” 37 But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”

**38 Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb.
It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. 39 Jesus said,
“Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead
man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an
odour, for he has been dead four days.” 40 Jesus said
to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you
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41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his
eyes and said, **“Father, I thank you that you have**
heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I
said this on account of the people standing around,
that they may believe that you sent me.” 43 When he
had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice,
“Lazarus, come out.” 44 The man who had died came
out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and
his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them,
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JOHN 11

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Dealing with Grief

Martha — reasoning with Jesus
Mary — weeping with Jesus

why, did this happen.
yes, i believe you are faithful.
yes, i believe that it will be okay..
still… if you were here.

“I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” 25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” 27 She said to him,“Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

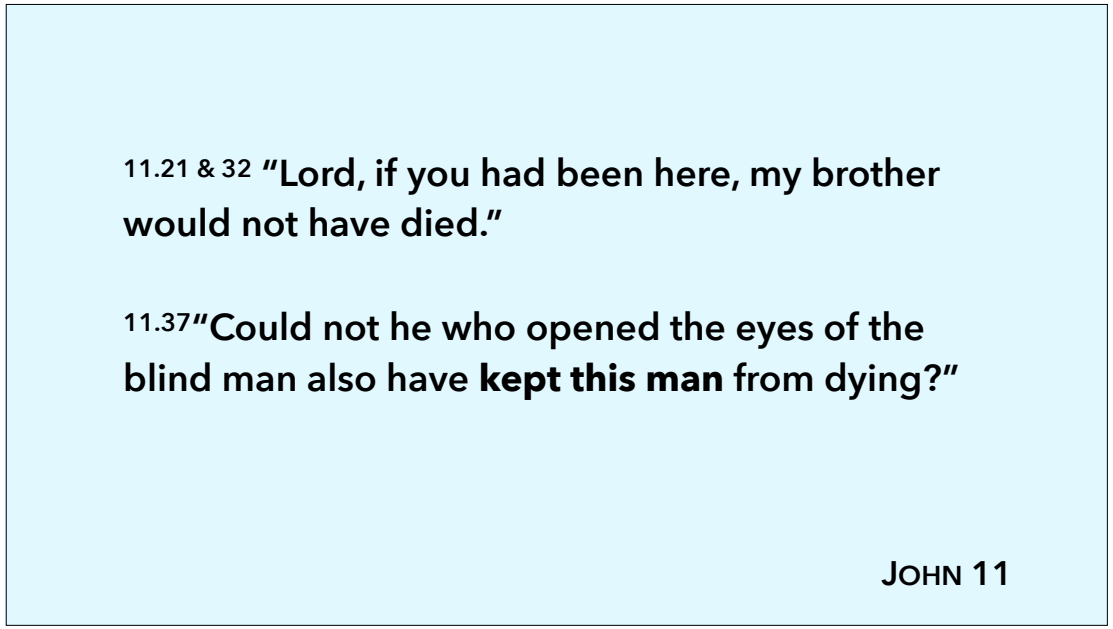
mary, weeping, wailing, anguishing.
Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him,“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” 33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.

Death on earth.
It will bring sorrow.
It will bring loss.
It will challenge our reason
& our reason for being
It reminds us how precious life is.
It reminds us that we are not in control.

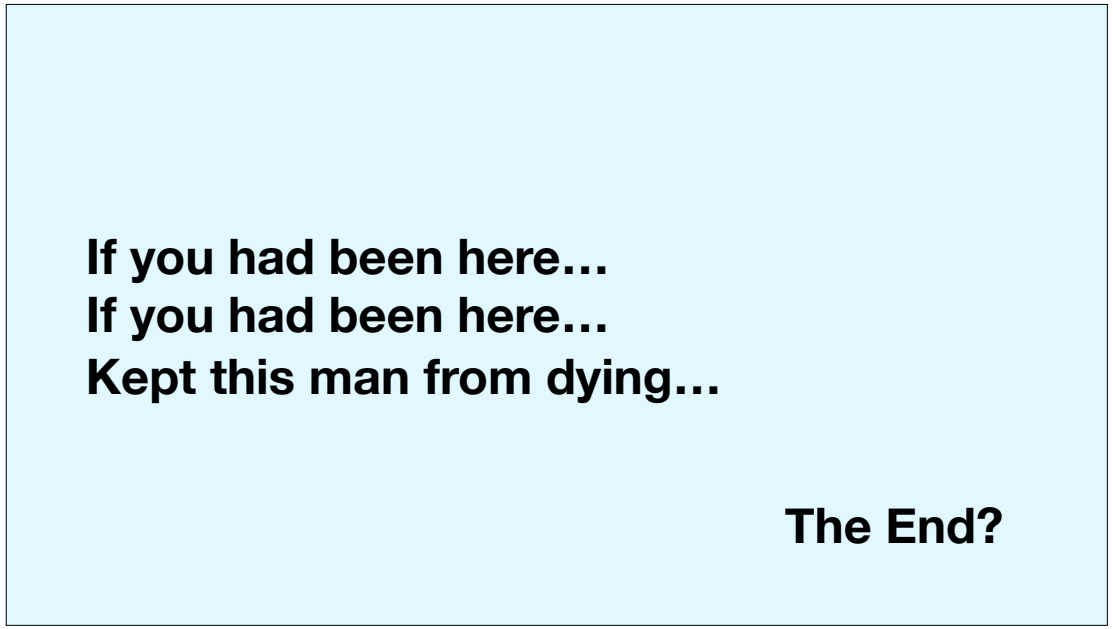
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Lazarus' death and resurrection lets us picture Jesus' sovereignty over life and death

And they're coming to Jesus, and this is what Jesus says: **What is your need? What is your greatest need? Why are you coming to Jesus? **And probably even better **what are you expecting from Jesus?**
You're coming to me for something immediate. You're coming to me because you think i'm this. You're coming to me, but you don't even know who I am.
You're coming to me for bread. Or your maslow hierarchy of needs — but I am Jesus — and there's something much more.



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If you had been here…
If you had been here…
Kept this man from dying…

1. These people were convene

11.4 But when Jesus heard it he said, **"This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."**

JOHN 11

The illness that leads to death is *sin*.

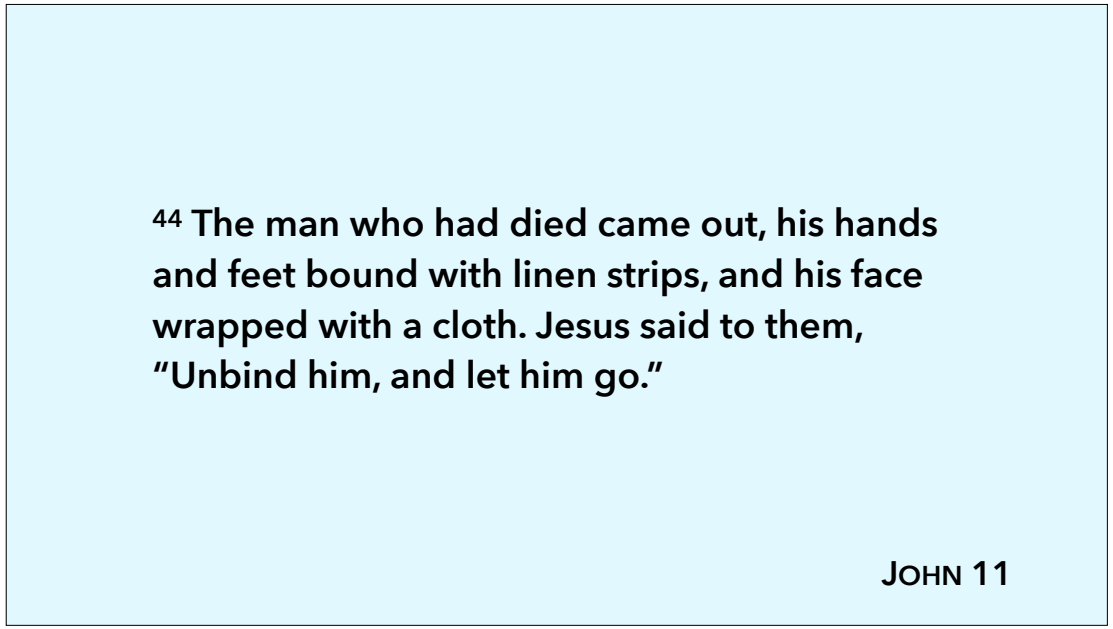
Death on earth,
is not the thing we should fear the most.

11.4 But when Jesus heard it he said, **"This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."**

JOHN 11

True death is eternal separation from God.

True life comes through believing in Jesus



41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.” 43 When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” 44 The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

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“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,
26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”


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