

Obedience Triggers The 'Then' Moment!

"Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days."

⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said.... (John 11: 39-41)

This is brief summary of what has transpired, so far, based on the above narrative:

1. Jesus has spoken. He gave an instruction....
"Take away the stone," he said.
God's written Word, as stated in the Holy Bible, instructs us.
2. Then an obstacle presents itself in Martha's comments...
"But, Lord," said Martha.
Her comments has the potential to cause the miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead to be aborted.
I liken Martha's comments to daily obstacles or challenges we face that either prevent us from reading or hearing the Word of God or even from acting on His Word.
3. Believe!
Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"
Don't let your circumstances or your senses (human logic and reasoning) limit you. See beyond them and recognize that God is greater than any problem!
4. They heeded Jesus' instructions and took away the stone!
"So they took away the stone."
Obey God's Word!
5. Obedience triggers the "Then" moment! They obeyed Jesus' words and took away the stone. It was only when the stone was removed that Jesus acted....
"So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said...."
Our obedience moves Jesus to act on our behalf!

The story is not yet finished but we can see some similarities between the events of this story and those of our lives, as shown in the diagrams below:



The story is not yet finished and there is more to add to the above diagram. But today, the focus is on being **obedient** to God’s Word. This moves Jesus to act on our behalf. Be blessed.

“Heavenly Father,

“I thank You, O God, for Your Son Jesus – our Advocate in heaven. Lord, help me to read and obey Your Word and to believe in Your Son Jesus. I see beyond my problems and, in faith, I look towards heaven for my miracle. In Jesus’ mighty name I pray with thanksgiving. Amen.”

He replied, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.”- Luke 11:28.