

“Loose Him, And Let Him Go!”

*<sup>43</sup> And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.*

*<sup>44</sup> And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, **Loose him, and let him go.** (John 11:43-44)*

## 1. Bounded

Lazarus was bounded in three areas that immobilized him: hands, feet and face. Although he was brought back to life, he was still in bondage. I believe that Jesus allowed Lazarus to be risen in this bounded state so that we can understand its significance.

### *a) Bound Hand and Foot With Grave Clothes*

If someone is bounded ‘hand and foot,’ even though he is alive, he cannot get very far. Lazarus was perhaps hopping his way out of the tomb. But thank God He is alive, and He heard the voice of Jesus calling! Jesus is calling You, just as you are!

Yes, Lazarus was not toatally free! With hands and feet tied – the ‘doing and the going’ is limited. Our goals and things we hope to accomplish are either left undone, or only partially accomplished. In short, with your hands and feet spiritually tied to this world, there is not much one can do for Jesus.

We have heard the expression “tie up like a market crab.’ This has spiritual connotations as well. We can be alive but once we are spiritually ‘tie up like a market crab’ we can never be effective, and achieve great things for God. We also learn ‘what’ is keeping his hands and feet bound: **grave clothes!**

Grave clothes speak of the old nature – baggage of sin from the past that we still carry around, and which keep us in bondage. We cannot get far in achieving great things for God if we are continually weighed down by the heaviness of sin! Jesus, the Burden-Bearer, is the only One who can set us loose!

### *b) His Face Was Bound*

Lazarus could not see where he was going because his face was also covered. He had lost his sense of direction. One of the strategies of the devil is to present issues, problems and even attractions as distractions to ‘blind’ us and keep us in a state of confusion. It is as though ‘we cannot see our way’ - as the saying goes. This speaks of a purposeless life where we just exist and do not have any focus.

## 2. Loose Him!

There are no longer obstacles in my way. Removal of these chains and the shedding of my grave clothes are important. But if I remain in the same place – ‘the tomb’- in my life, it is as though I am still

in bondage. It compares to an open bird cage where a bird - living in that cage for a number of years - still sits inside. Although the restraint has been removed – the door is now open – the bird refuses to fly away and just sits there. He is still in bondage! So after ‘loosing’ there must be a ‘letting go!’

### 3. Let Him Go!

I’m free at last to **move forward**, never to return to my life of sin. Don’t be like those parrots and pigeons that after being set free return back to their cages! Sometimes we become so entangled in life’s problems for so long, that when the opportunity for freedom presents itself, there is no way to go except back to our cages of imprisonment! May God give us options, and the strength and courage to make the right choices! Like Lazarus, have a desire to want to turn to Jesus, and if you need to return – return to His Word. May the precious blood of Jesus and the Word of God deliver us from ‘the hands of death’ over my spiritual life, so that we can live again! Praise be to Almighty God! All honour and glory belongs to You!

### Allow Others To Help!

*Jesus saith unto **them**, “Loose him, and let him go!”.*

When we are in this state of bondage we may need help from others. Don’t refuse counselling and guidance from those persons that Christ will send to help you get delivered. Yes, Jesus could have spoken the word, and free Lazarus from those scraps of cloth that tied him, and covered his face. But He is also teaching us that there are persons who are anointed in the ministry of healing and deliverance that God will use to cast out those demon spirits that keep us in bondage. It may sound hard to believe, but even though we have decided to live a Christian life – a new life – there are some issues that keep holding us down, and prevent us from moving forward in Christ. There are some baggage and ‘spirits’ that are still part of our lives that serve to keep us bounded and living a confused and purposeless life. It is as though we are busy but not effective for the kingdom of God....and time is passing us by. Let’s pray and ask God to direct us to the right persons for help.

Heavenly Father,

“By the precious blood of Jesus, I pray that all obstacles that hinder me are removed from my life! May the fire of heaven burn to ashes all spiritual altars and practices that tie my hands and feet and keep me in spiritual bondage. I speak clarity of thought to my mind, and receive clear vision and focus in respect of my divine purpose. I’m loosed and free to move forward in Christ. Open doors and send the right help from Your anointed ones to minister healing unto me. In Jesus’ mighty name I pray with thanksgiving. Amen.”

Memory Verse:

*Jesus saith unto them, “Loose him, and let him go!”.*