

Martha of Bethany

(Luke 10:38-42; John 11:1-45; 12:1-2)

I. MARTHA'S CHARACTER

A. Her Singleness

1. Martha served God and others as a single woman.
2. Jesus had friends who were single women.

B. Her Gifting (Lk 10:38; Jn 12:2)

1. Traditional Homemaker
2. Generous Hospitality

C. Her Faults (Lk 10:40-41)

1. Distracted and stressed about many things
2. Impatient and ungracious to other people
3. Misses the most important thing

D. Her Theology (Jn 11:21-22, 24, 27)

1. Knowledge of Scripture
2. Profession of Faith
 - a. Jesus' Power
 - b. Jesus' Love
 - c. Her Messiah (Mat 16:16)

II. MARTHA'S CRISES

A. The Death of Her Brother

1. **Loss of Relationship/Companionship**—a beloved brother
2. **Loss of Security**—legal protection

B. Her Disappointment with Jesus

1. Questioning His **Timing**—*“If you had been here...”*
2. Questioning His **Care**—*“Why didn’t you come?”*
3. Questioning His **Judgment**—*“But Lord...!”*

III. JESUS’ ANSWER

A. The Glory of God (Jn 11:4-6, 15)—Our crises are His opportunity to show us more of His glory.

B. The Friendship of Jesus (Jn 11:5-6)

1. **God’s glory is not contrary to our good.** (Jer 29:11; Rom 8:28)—
2. **When Jesus doesn’t do what we expect, He has better plans.**
(Isaiah 55:8-9; 64:4; 1 Cor 2:9)
3. **Our crises are an opportunity to know Him better.** (Ps 63:1-8)

C. The Lord of Life (Job 19:25-27; Jn 5:25-29)

1. **Jesus does not always heal; sometimes He chooses to resurrect.**
2. **Death does not have the final word; Jesus does!**

D. The I AM (Jn 17:3)—not a philosophical statement; it’s a personal. Our faith is in a ***Person***—Jesus Christ!