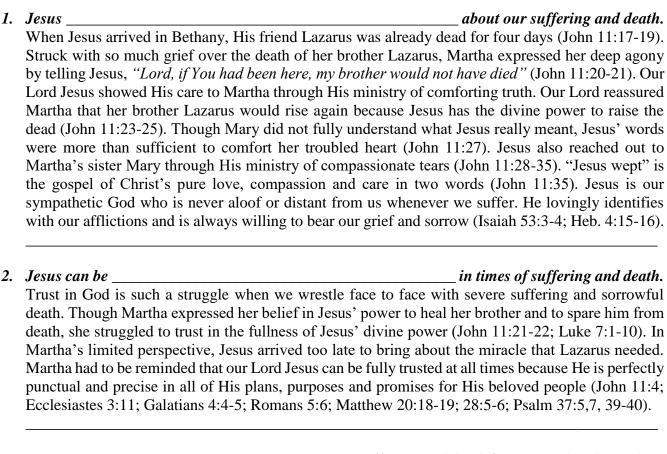
I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

(John 11:17-27)

The good news of Christ's resurrection is not only our hope for future glory in heaven. It is also our only hope for our present life here on earth. To borrow words from a hymn, the resurrection of Christ is our "strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow." Our Lord Jesus makes that clear to us when He declares, "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25). The resurrection of Jesus is the timeless presence and power of Christ which brings the future blessing of eternal glory to a present reality in our life. As we celebrate our Lord's resurrection today, let's be encouraged by these three comforting affirmations about Jesus as our resurrection and life.



3. Jesus ______ suffering and death for our good and His glory.

Though Martha affirmed her belief in the final resurrection, she did not really grasp the full extent

of Jesus' divine power (John 11:23-24; Daniel 12:2; Job 19:25-26). With a loving and gentle heart, our Lord Jesus graciously revealed to Martha the glory of His Messianic identity by declaring, "I am the resurrection and the life!" (John 11:25; 6:35; 8:12; 10:9,11; 14:6; 15:5). As the eternal, unchanging and almighty God, Jesus has the sovereign power to raise people from their graves and grant eternal life to those who trust in Him (John 11:25-27). As our risen Savior and reigning King, Jesus has victoriously conquered sin, suffering, Satan and death and has decisively secured our glorious salvation and resurrection unto eternal life (1 Corinthians 15:55-57; John 5:24,28-29; 6:40).
