

# Interpreting God By God

John 11:1-6

King James Version (KJV)

1 Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.

2 (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)

3 Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.

4 When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.

5 Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.

6 When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.

## 1. Interpreting (Verb)

Verb

Explain the meaning of (information, words, or actions): "interpret the evidence".

Translate orally the words of another person speaking a different language.

I know that you believe you understand what you think I said, but I'm not sure that you realize that what you heard is not what I meant.

- Richard Nixon

Let's face it – English is a crazy language.

- There is no egg in eggplant
- Ham in hamburger
- Apple nor pine in pineapple
- English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France.
- Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that:

- Quicksand can work slowly
- Boxing rings are square
- Guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig
- And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?
- If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth?
- One goose, 2 geese. One moose, 2 meese?
- One index, 2 indices?
- Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend?
- If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?
- If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught?
- If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?

Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people:

- Recite at a play and play at a recital?
- Ship by truck and send cargo by ship?
- Have noses that run and feet that smell?
- How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which:

- Your house can burn up as it burns down,
- You fill in a form by filling it out and
- An alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race (which, of course, isn't a race at all). That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

Isaiah 55:8-9

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.

9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 28:10

King James Version (KJV)

10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

John 11:11-27

11 These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.

12 Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well.

13 Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep.

14 Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.

15 And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him.

17 Then when Jesus came, he found that he had lain in the grave four days already.

18 Now Bethany was nigh unto Jerusalem, about fifteen furlongs off:

19 And many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.

20 Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house.

21 Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

22 But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.

23 Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.

24 Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.

25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

27 She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

John 11:37-44

37 And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?

38 Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

39 Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days.

40 Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

41 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.

42 And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.

43 And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.

44 And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.

Roman 8:26-28

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

If God said:

Hebrews 13:5...for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

He meant that no matter what happens...I won't leave you.

If God said:

Matthew 7:7

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find;  
knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

He meant that He won't play hide and seek but rather you come looking you will find Him.

If God said:

James 5:15

And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up;  
and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

He meant that if you believe in Him to heal you then count it as done!

If God said:

Philippians 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his  
riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Matthew 6:31-34

31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we  
drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father  
knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all  
these things shall be added unto you.

34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take  
thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Then He meant that you don't have to worry about the job lay off and the cut in  
income...

Philippians 1: 6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun  
a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

If God said:

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

He meant that if you ask Him to forgive you of your sins and if you will be baptized in His name He will remove your sins and promises to live inside of you!

We must stop letting our situation interpret the answer...

Our co-worker

Our school professor

Our past

Our relationships

We must let God interpret Himself

Ezekiel 14:7

For every one of the house of Israel, or of the stranger that sojourneth in Israel, which separateth himself from me, and setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to a prophet to enquire of him concerning me; I the Lord will answer him by myself:

Isaiah 44:24

Thus saith the Lord, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the Lord that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;

God don't need know interpreter!

God said! I believe it!