

A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED UPON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

LORD OVER LIFE AND DEATH

Luke 7:14 “Young man, I say to you, get up!”(Read Luke 7:11-15)

According to the Bible, Jesus raised three people from the dead during his earthly ministry: Lazarus, the daughter of Jairus and the son of the widow at Nain. Unlike the paramedics that arrive in their ambulance, have many life saving devices and medicines in order to sustain life, Jesus simply touched the bier upon which the body of the son of the widow lay, spoke to Jairus’ daughter and told Lazarus to come out of the tomb in which he had been entombed and life was restored to each of them.

Jesus participated with the Father and the Holy Spirit in the creation of life. From dust and breathing into Adam the breath of life, Adam came into being. The Psalmist says that every living person is created by almighty God: “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. our eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.” (Psalm 119:14-16) And at the other end of life Jesus says, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in Me will never die.” (John 11:25-26)

By the power of His word Jesus brought back to life two who died within a few hours of His coming to them and one, namely Lazarus, who had been entombed for several days. His authority is above all other earthly authority. His authority is over life and death. Martha confessed such a faith when she said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here my brother would not have died.” (John 11:21) and in the next verse, “I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” (John 11:22)

Your life and death is in God’s hands. He has given you your life. He gives you all you need to sustain it in the here and now. He has promised you through His gift

of faith to you in Jesus a life that will never end. Jesus is Lord over your life and death.

Prayer: Into Your hands, O Lord, I commit my body, mind, soul and spirit. Amen.

(A Hymn of Prayer At The End of the Day)

Lord, support us all day long, Guide and strengthen,
Evening comes, the world is hushed, Shadows lengthen,
Work is done, life's fevered pace Now has ended;
Christ, to You, our final rest Is commended.

Be our light in darkness, Lord, Our defender;
In Your presence perils all Must surrender.
Drive all dark satanic snares From each dwelling;
Then, at peace, our hearts Your praise Will be telling.

With Your presence, Lord, draw near Those who labor
Through the night-time on behalf Of their neighbor.
Grant them courage for each fear, Faithful caring;
Your compassion and Your love Truly sharing.

Gracious Lord, we give You thanks, Praise and bless You,
As the giver of all good We confess You.
This past day we now commit To Your keeping
And entrust to You the hours Of our sleeping.
(LSB 884)