

How To React To Sickness

John 11:1-13

1. Sickness Reminds Us That We're All Mortal (1-2)

Now a certain man was sick

2. Sickness Prioritizes The Importance Of God, Family And Friends (3, 33-35)

Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick."

3. Sickness Spotlights God's Glory (4; cf. 9:3)

"This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

- **God Is Glorified Through The Contrast Of Suffering**

Romans 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

- **God's Is Glorified By Being Our Strength In Weakness**

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." ... For when I am weak, then I am strong.

- **God Is Glorified By Working Bad Things Out For His Good Purpose**

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

4. Sickness Provides An Opportunity To Trust God's Timing (5-6)

when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was.

5. Sickness Opens Occasions To Serve Others In Faith (7-10, cf. Mt 25:43-45)

He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." 8 The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?"

6. Sickness And Death Are Ultimately Overcome By The Resurrection (11-13; 23-26)

"Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up." ... "Your brother will rise again."... "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Conclusion:

1. "Live prepared to meet God." (J.C. Ryle, *Sickness*)
2. When sick, seek to glorify God.
3. When others are sick, seek to serve the infirmed.
4. Resurrection through Christ is our victory over sickness and death.

Discussion:

1. How can God be glorified through an epidemic? Through cancer? Through death?
2. How can we navigate faith through panic? Risky ministry versus isolation?
3. How does Christ's resurrection bring courage and hope?