



“And now I am no more in the world,
but these are in the world...” (John 17:11).

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance
of this week’s lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary®
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BURIED!

Record snowstorms buried much of the eastern United States for several days last week. Over the weekend, more than 60 million people were existing under blizzard, winter storm, or freezing rain warnings. In New York City, more snow fell than in any single storm ever recorded. Some locales got more than 40” of snow. Public transportation came to a standstill, with 13,000 airline flights being canceled. By midweek, more than 40 deaths had been attributed to the weather. The snow-afflicted regions are coming slowly back to life as warmer temperatures gradually melt the snow.

RESURRECTED!

We don’t know how long Lazarus had been sick, but we know that his good friend, Jesus, did not immediately come to him when hearing of his illness. Jesus’ absence caused both of Lazarus’s sisters to wonder why the man they knew as a great healer did not prevent their brother’s death. By the time Jesus arrived in Bethany, Lazarus had been buried for four days. Nevertheless, when Jesus spoke to him from outside the tomb, Lazarus came forth immediately, alive and walking.

1. People often question God’s will, love, and presence when natural calamities, illness, or death comes. How can we best address those doubts?
2. Think of a time when you lost a loved one. What were some helpful things people said and did? What were some things people said and did that were *not* helpful?
3. How was the glory of God exhibited in Lazarus’ resurrection? In what ways is it exhibited to us today? Be specific.

—Charles R. Boatman

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