

EXHALTED

CHARIST

SEE HIM HIGHER SO

THAT YOU LIVE HIGHER

There are three words for miraculous works in the Gospels:

1. Miracles: denote the manifestation of Divine power.
2. Wonders: underline the effect produced on those who witness the miracle.
3. Signs: a miracle with a lesson attached to it.

The Journey to a Miracle

1. Delay
2. Discussion
3. Deliverance

¹ Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, “Lord, the one you love is sick.” ⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, “This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.” ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, ⁷ and then he said to his disciples, “Let us go back to Judea.” ⁸ “But Rabbi,” they said, “a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?”

John 11:1-17 (NIV)

⁹ Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world’s light. ¹⁰ It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light.” ¹¹ After he had said this, he went on to tell them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.” ¹² His disciples replied, “Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.” ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. ¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” ¹⁶ Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.” ¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

John 11:1-17 (NIV)

**Delayed,
Not Denied**

Delays Are Not Denials, Delays Are Developmental

¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, “**Lazarus is dead,** ¹⁵ **and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.**”

John 11:14-15 (NIV)

Delays Are Not Denials, Delays Are Developmental

“God delights to increase the faith of His children. We ought, instead of wanting no trials before victory, no exercise for patience, to be willing to take them from God’s hand as a means. I say – and say it deliberately – trials, obstacles, difficulties, and sometimes defeats, are the very food of faith.” - George Mueller

Delays Are Not Denials, Delays Are Developmental

1. Delays teach us to walk by faith and not by sight.
2. Delays teach us how to deal with disappointment and not slide into defeat.
3. Delays teach us to hope against all hope.



Delays Make Room for Displays of His Ultimate Power

¹⁷On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for **four days**.

John 11:17 (NIV)

Delays Make Room for Displays of His Ultimate Power

Superstition:

1. Misplaced credit in the supernatural. There is a supernatural, but you must ascribe it to the right source.
2. Dread of the supernatural.

Delays Make Room for Displays of His Ultimate Power

³¹ But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV)