

**“Jesus Cried” – John 11:35**  
Pastor Jim Rose

NOTES

**Introduction:** God made us to cry!

**John 11 Outline:**

1. Jesus’ Friend Lazarus is Deathly Sick (11:1-16)
2. Lazarus is Dead and Buried Before Jesus Arrives (11:17-32)
3. Jesus Grieves with the Bereaved (11:33-35)
4. Jesus Conquers Death (11:36-44)

**The Emotions (Impassibility) of God**

“This conception of God [as impassible] represents no single biblical term but was introduced into Christian theology in the second century. What was it supposed to mean? The historical answer is: Not impassivity, unconcern, and impersonal detachment in the face of the creation. Not inability or unwillingness to empathize with human pain and grief, either. It means simply that God’s experiences do not come upon him as ours come upon us. His are foreknown, willed, and chosen by himself, and are not involuntary surprises forced on him from outside, apart from his own decision, in the way that ours regularly are... Let us be clear: A totally impassive God would be a horror, and not the God of Calvary at all. He might belong in Islam; he has no place in Christianity.” (J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*)

**Three Questions:**

1. Why did Jesus wait to visit his friends? (Why God delays to answer our cries)
2. How were Mary and Martha’s statement to Jesus different? (Faith and feelings)
3. Why did Jesus cry at the grave? (When God carries us)

**Conclusion:** Cleansing tears and the presence of God in suffering

**“Jesus Cried” – John 11:35**  
Pastor Jim Rose

NOTES

**Introduction:** God made us to cry!

**John 11 Outline:**

1. Jesus’ Friend Lazarus is Deathly Sick (11:1-16)
2. Lazarus is Dead and Buried Before Jesus Arrives (11:17-32)
3. Jesus Grieves with the Bereaved (11:33-35)
4. Jesus Conquers Death (11:36-44)

**The Emotions (Impassibility) of God**

“This conception of God [as impassible] represents no single biblical term but was introduced into Christian theology in the second century. What was it supposed to mean? The historical answer is: Not impassivity, unconcern, and impersonal detachment in the face of the creation. Not inability or unwillingness to empathize with human pain and grief, either. It means simply that God’s experiences do not come upon him as ours come upon us. His are foreknown, willed, and chosen by himself, and are not involuntary surprises forced on him from outside, apart from his own decision, in the way that ours regularly are... Let us be clear: A totally impassive God would be a horror, and not the God of Calvary at all. He might belong in Islam; he has no place in Christianity.” (J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*)

**Three Questions:**

1. Why did Jesus wait to visit his friends? (Why God delays to answer our cries)
2. How were Mary and Martha’s statement to Jesus different? (Faith and feelings)
3. Why did Jesus cry at the grave? (When God carries us)

**Conclusion:** Cleansing tears and the presence of God in suffering