

# John 11:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?

## Analysis

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Some observers question why Jesus, who opened blind eyes (chapter 9), didn't prevent Lazarus' death. Their logic is sound but limited—they assume prevention superior to resurrection. This reveals human tendency to prefer avoiding suffering over witnessing greater redemption through it. Their question anticipates Jesus' greater answer: not merely preventing death but conquering it. This parallels God's redemptive pattern—not preventing the Fall but redeeming through the Cross.

## Historical Context

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The reference to the blind man healed in Jerusalem (9:1-41) suggests these questioners witnessed or knew of that miracle. Their question reflects Jewish messianic expectations of healing and deliverance.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does our preference for prevention over redemption limit our understanding of God's ways?
2. What does this question teach about human inability to comprehend God's greater purposes?
3. In what ways is resurrection greater than prevention in your current struggles?

## Interlinear Text

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τινὲς δὲ ἐξ αὐτῶν εἶπον, Οὐκ ἤδυνατο οὗτος τοῦ  
**some** **And** **of** **them** **said** **not** **Could** **this man** **which**  
G5100 G1161 G1537 G846 G2036 G3756 G1410 G3778 G3588

ἀνοίξας τοῦ ὀφθαλμοὺς τοῦ τυφλοῦ ποιῆσαι ἵνα καὶ  
**opened** **which** **the eyes** **which** **of the blind** **have caused** **that** **even**  
G455 G3588 G3788 G3588 G5185 G4160 G2443 G2532

οὗτος μὴ ἀποθάνῃ  
**this man** **not** **have died**  
G3778 G3361 G599

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