

# John 11:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.

## Analysis

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Jesus' deliberate delay appears contrary to love but demonstrates sovereign wisdom. The two additional days ensured Lazarus had been dead four days (v. 17), exceeding Jewish belief that the soul lingered three days. This timing maximized the miracle's evidential power. Christ's delay reveals that God's timing perfects His purposes; immediate answers might diminish greater demonstrations of grace. This tests and strengthens faith.

## Historical Context

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Jewish tradition held that the soul remained near the body for three days. By waiting until the fourth day, Jesus precluded any explanation except resurrection. This reflects His strategic timing in all miracles.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does Christ's deliberate delay challenge our demand for immediate answers to prayer?

2. In what ways might God's delays serve purposes we cannot yet perceive?
3. What does this teach about the relationship between faith and God's timing?

## Interlinear Text

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ώς	οὖν	ήκουσεν	ὅτι	ἀσθενεῖ	τότε	μὲν	ἔμεινεν	ἐν
When	therefore	he had heard	that	he was sick	still	G3303	he abode	in
G5613	G3767	G191	G3754	G770	G5119		G3306	G1722
ὧ	ἥν	τόπῳ	δύο	ἡμέρας				
where	he was	the same place	two	days				
G3739	G2258	G5117	G1417	G2250				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 30:18** (Parallel theme): And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the LORD is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him.

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