What was the time span between the raising of Lazarus and Jesus’ resurrection?

Dear Sandy,

Your inquiry concerned a statement made on Christian Questions Radio that about two weeks elapsed between Jesus’ telling of the parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus and his actual raising of Lazarus from the dead. You wanted to know how that time period was ascertained.

There is no scriptural proof that we are aware of concerning the precise time period of two weeks, but it seems a reasonable conjecture since the raising of Lazarus occurred shortly before our Lord was crucified (see John 12:9-10) and the parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus occurs at the end of Luke 16. The next two chapters of Luke contain more parables with no indication that Jesus did any traveling between the giving of any of them. Then in chapter 19 he rides into Jerusalem on an ass a few days before his crucifixion. To say “two weeks” elapsed is a guess, but it is a short time.

Thank you once again for drawing our attention to this point. A better way of stating the shortness of the timeframe between these two events would have been to say that our best estimate of elapsed time from the speaking of the parable to the raising of Lazarus was two weeks.

We always welcome comments, questions or differing opinions on our programs. Please write us again. You may contact us directly by visiting our web page at: www.christianquestions.net.

Sincerely,
Christian Questions Radio