

The Rich Man's Lesson Learned Late

Introduction

Scripture Reading: Luke 16:19-31

1. Jesus told a story of two men who died, and the sad lesson to late by one of them.

The Story

1. This story centers around two men. A rich man and Lazarus.
Luke 16:14-15
2. Both men died and this is where the teaching lesson begins as told to us by Jesus.
Luke 16:22-23

After Death - Hades

1. At death, one's soul will go to a place called Hades where it is divided into two areas. One is Paradise and the other is Torment.
 - A. Paradise is referred to as "Abraham's bosom." It is a place of comfort.
Luke 16:22, 25
 - 1) Jesus was also in Paradise after His death on the cross.
Acts 2:25-31
 - 2) The thief on the cross was also in Paradise as promised to him by Jesus while He was on the cross.
Luke 23:42-43

B. Torment is not Hell but is likened to the suffering that one will experience for an eternity in Hell.

Luke 16:23

1) The rich man pled for mercy as he was in torment!

Luke 16:24-25

2. It is important to know that between Paradise and Torment there is a great gulf fixed. There is no going from one to the other (not that one would want to go from Paradise to Torment).

Luke 16:26

The Need to Listen to God NOW

1. The rich man wanted Abraham to send Lazarus back to earth to warn his brothers. This won't happen. The time to listen and obey is NOW.

Luke 16:27-28

2. The rich man was told that his family had the same opportunity to listen and obey as anyone else.

Luke 16:29

3. Now, whether they will or will not listen is up to them. Hindsight is always 20/20. Before death, the rich man most likely would not have been moved to change his ways.

Luke 16:30-31

Important Lessons

1. Riches or “things” will not save us.

Matthew 16:26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

2. Death is coming to each one of us – we just don’t know what day.

Ecclesiastes 9:2-3 All things come alike to all: One event happens to the righteous and the wicked; To the good, the clean, and the unclean; To him who sacrifices and him who does not sacrifice. As is the good, so is the sinner; He who takes an oath as he who fears an oath. This is an evil in all that is done under the sun: that one thing happens to all. Truly the hearts of the sons of men are full of evil; madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead.

3. At the point of death, each one of us will have to give account before almighty God.

2 Corinthians 5:10-11 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.

4. Every single knee will bow before God.

A. There will be a moment, after death, that ALL will know that there is an almighty God and He is REAL!

Romans 14:11-12 For it is written: "AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL CONFESS TO GOD." So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

Conclusion

- 1. When we die, our spirit goes to Hades, the place of the dead.**
- 2. One was in comfort, one was in torment, with NO escape.**
- 3. So now is the time to prepare for that time yet to come.**
- 4. Will you lean on Jesus and be saved? Only He can save you from the eternal flame and agony of Hell.**

Place

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