

**Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"**  
**"After Death Experiences"**  
**Luke 16:19-31**  
**Study-68**

**Death is the great Equalizer, and sometimes the great Reversal! After death what counts is the human heart!**

There is an ongoing debate over our passage being a **parable** or a **true-life story!** There are **38 parables given by Jesus;** Jesus never gave a name. In this passage He gave two names, **Lazarus** and **Abraham.**

Jesus speaks about two mens' **lives,** their **deaths,** and their **destinies.**

**Luke 16 Theme - The Use & Abuse Of Money: "A call to be wise and generous with the resources that God has entrusted to us."**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "Kingdom Living Seeks To Please God In This Present Life Knowing That This Life Determines The Future Life"

- 1. Verses 19-21 Riches Of The Heart**
- 2. Verses 22-26 Reality Of The Afterlife**
- 3. Verses 27-31 Results Of The Decision**

**1. Verses 19-21 Riches Of The Heart:**

**Luke 16:19 "Now (Context)** is a continuation of the subject of money.  
**Luke 16 "A call to be wise and generous with the resources that God has entrusted to us"**

**Verses 1-18 Jesus speaks of the Purpose (Use) of Money:**  
**Luke 16:14**

**Verses 19-31 Jesus speaks of the Abuse of Money: In response to their scoffing, Jesus now tells them a story!**

**Verse 19 Extremely Rich: there was a rich man,** his name is not mentioned. (Gracious Jesus did not want to hurt the family)

**rich** - religious taught that riches were God's approval.

**and he habitually dressed in purple** Phoenician wool, or fine linen that was dyed made from a sea mussel that was difficult to get so extremely expensive, called "*murex*" **Acts 16:14 Lydia**

**and fine linen,** a fine linen from Egypt

**joyously** (*make merry as a feast, Glutton*) **living in splendor every day.** The term **splendor** "*Flamboyantly.*" Notice it was **every day**, different cuisine at every meal.

**Warning: Great danger of riches, is to make this earth our heaven and never give any thought for our eternal home**

**Verses 20-21 Extremely Poor: "And a poor man named Lazarus – "God has helped, God is my helper"** dependence was upon God

**was laid at his gate,** The word **laid** – "*to cast*" **gate** - "*large gate, palace gate*"

**covered with sores,** *Ulcerated sores*

**One of God's ways of preparing us for heaven is hardships.**

**Luke 16:21 crumbs which were falling from the rich man's table;** That a practice of the rich was to use thick pieces of bread as hand wipes after a meal. **James 2:15-16; 1 John 3:17**

**besides, even the dogs were coming and licking his sores.** No help from others but the dogs, the scavengers were showing sympathy.

## **2. Verses 22-26 Reality Of The Afterlife:**

**Luke 16:22 All Must Die: "Now the poor man died**

The common custom in that day was to take a poor person and dump their body on the burning garbage dump.

**His Immediate Destination Was Heaven: and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom;** Escorted by angels into heaven.

**Abraham's bosom; (Chest) Paradise,** those who "*die in the Lord*" Another name for heaven. It was a place of fellowship, feasting with God's patriarchs.

**Money can't keep you from death: the rich man also died**

**Psalm 89:48**

**Hebrews 9:27**

**and was buried.** Those who live only for self are seldomly missed!

**Verse 23 - His Immediate Destination Was Hell: Luke 16:23**

**Hades** – Greek word **Hades** is **Hell** (**O.T.** called Sheol or the Under World, beyond the grave, unseen world, place of all departed spirits. **N.T.** never used of the righteous. Here equal to Gehenna, place of punishment.

**in Hades he lift up his eyes** – the rich man could see.

**being in torments – four times 23,24,25,28** so he could feel.

***"A man's use of his resources is a revelation of his character, and that character determines destiny"***

**Hosea 6:6 (NLT)**

**seeing Abraham ... and Lazarus** – he could recognize others in Hell.

**and saw Abraham far away**, (Hell is far from heaven) **and Lazarus in his bosom**. What a shock this was. **Luke 13:28** could see but could not enter.

**Mark 8:36**

**Reversal In Eternity:** *"The poor became rich, and the rich became poor!"*

**Luke 16:24 "And he cried out** - he could speak.

**God's Family Is Spiritual Not Physical: and said, 'Father Abraham,**

**He Prays To Late: have mercy on me**, he is praying here! It is to late

**and send Lazarus, so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue;** This rich man still does not get it yet. He thinks he is still controlling things.

**Those in hell have bodies:** Finger, tongue, he is in pain.

**for I am in agony in this flame.'** Notice the agony of this place.

**Mark 9:44-48; Matthew 25:41; 2 Peter 2:6-7;**

**Revelation 20:15, 21:8**

**Luke 16:25 "But Abraham said, 'Child, "son" They are related in the flesh.**

**remember** – In hell there will be remembrance of past things.

**that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things;** This man was in hell not because of riches but because he was so indifferent to the needs of another which revealed that his heart had never been converted.

**but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony.** The great reversal.

**Luke 16:26 Our Eternal Destiny Is Determined On Earth: 'And besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed,**

**Hades – (Under World)** Had two compartments. One compartment for the righteous and another compartment for the unrighteous. This is before Jesus died on the cross. There was one place with a partition separating the two places.

**The Righteous - called Abraham's Bosom** – Paradise, place of comfort.

**The Unrighteous - Place of torment** – Hell. **Ephesians 4:8-10**

Today, believers that die go to heaven. **(Revelation 4-5)** They are taken right into God's presence. **Revelation 21-22** New heaven and new earth.

**2 Corinthians 5:6-8; Revelation 20:14-15**

**so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not be able, and that none may cross over from there to us.'** That any good that can be done for others has to be done in this life. (No escape from hell)

**Soul Sleep** – *The soul does not sleep but the body does.*

**Purgatory** – Those not holy enough to go to heaven must go there to burn off venial sins. **Hebrews 10:14**

**Reincarnation** – means "come again in the flesh."

**The Bible speaks of the torment of darkness in hell**  
**Mathew 8:12; 22:13; 25:30; 2 Peter 2:17**

**The Bible speaks of the torment of no rest Revelation 14:11**

**The Bible speaks of a torment that produces weeping and gnashing of teeth Mathew 8:12**

**A place of separation:** Those who are in hell are eternally separated from the presence of God **2 Thessalonians 1:9**

**A place "where the worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched."** **Mark 9:44**

### **3. Verses 27-31 Results Of The Decision:**

**Luke 16:27** He is still attempting to call the shots.

**"And he said, 'Then I beg you, Father,** now he prays! It is too late for that.

**Luke 16:28 for I have five brothers** — So he could reflect.

**in order that he may warn them,** Maybe he would be blamed for leading them there.

**He/Religious Blame God that he did not get a fair chance, do more for my brothers!**

**Luke 16:29 They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.'** They have the OT Scriptures. Rejecting Scripture is rejecting God  
**Luke 14:27**

**Luke 16:30 "But he said, 'No, Father Abraham,** the rich man disagreed

**but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!' We need more light, the signs, and wonders. Word not enough, (Jesus' Resurrection!)**

**John 11 Lazarus** He is raised from the dead and the people all know it.

**Luke 16:31 If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, (OT) Romans 10:17**

**they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'** Miracles are to confirm not convince!

### **Application:**

1. The Great Danger Of Riches, Is To Make This Earth Our Heaven And Never Give Any Thought For Our Eternal Homes.
2. One Of God's Ways Of Preparing Us For Heaven Is Hardships. Some Become Hard Thru Hardships And Others Are Softened By Adversity.
3. A Person's Use Of Their Resources Is A Revelation Of Their Character, And That Character Determines Destiny. Our Eternal Destiny Is Determined On Earth.
4. God Has Given Sufficient Light Through Scripture So That Man Is Without Excuse. People That Are Not Saved Is Not Due To A Lack Of The Miraculous But Due To A Hard Heart. Miracles Are To Confirm Not Convince.