

# One Minute After Death

Lk.16:19-31

## Perish – Lk.15:17

The half has not been told – Lk.16

- Reaction is predictable.
  - “It’s a fable...”
  - Is heaven a fable?
  - Lk.22:42, ‘cup’ – no real suffering?

# Lk.16:19-31

Jesus contrasts two men in . . .

- Life
- Death
- Eternity

One minute  
after death...

# 19:

- **Purple** (outer garment)
- **Linen** (fine linen of Egypt, Gn.41:42)
- **Feasted** (12:19)

No 'serious' sin cited

## 20-21:

- Beggar full of sores...
- Laid at his gate...
- Desiring... (Lk.10)

## 22:

- **Beggar died:** ...angels [child of God]
- 'Table' (21) . . . Abraham's bosom (22) – Jn.13:23
- **Rich man** also died...buried

## 23:

- Rich man: **torments**
- **Sees Abraham** afar off. (13:28)
- **Sees Lazarus:** 'tables' have turned.
  - Job 21:13

## 24:

- **'Father' Abraham.** Assumes...
  1. Relationship
  2. Superiority over Lazarus
- **Tormented** ... flame: suffer pain, torment; anguish, great distress.
  - Lk.2:48 . . . Ac.20:38



## 25:

- **Son** – physical descent
- **Remember**
- Great reversal – earth's good things deceived him
- **Now he ... you**

*'He who refused the crumbs  
is denied the drops'*

## 26:

- Great gulf

Lazarus had been separated from rich man's feasting by a gate.

Now the rich man is separated from Lazarus' feasting by a gulf.

## 27-28:

- **I beg...** (role reversal)
- **Send him...** For first time, rich man shows concern for others
  - He limits it to his own family
- Implies injustice –
  - ‘If I had been informed, I would not be here.’

Lazarus does not speak,  
complain, or gloat

## 29-31:

- “Moses” (writings). Jn.5:46
  - Bible gives his brothers all they need.
  - Implies rich man’s real problem was neglect of Scripture.
- Let them hear... (not enough to own)
  - If rich man cannot pity the poor with OT at hand and Lazarus on his doorstep...

Jesus raised a Lazarus (Jn.11)...

Jesus Himself was raised...

# I. A Contrast In Life

# “All men are born equal” – really?

Physically?

- Diseases
- Absalom

# “All men are born equal” – really?

Physically?

Materially?

- One born into wealth; another into poverty.
- “Too bad they’re not as smart as I am.”
  - Ja.1:17.
  - 1 Sm.2:7.

In circumstances, we are more like rich man than Lazarus.

2 Sm.12

# “All men are born equal” – really?

Physically?

Materially?

Socially?

Some are ignored, despised  
(Lazarus)

People wanted to be like rich man.

James 2:5-6



# “All men are born equal” – really?

Physically?

Materially?

Socially?

**Spiritually**

Those who crave spirituality based on signs and wonders are not spiritual at all. 1 Co.3:1-3; Col.1:9

Even if someone returned from dead, he could not influence those who shut ears to Scripture.

I. A Contrast In Life

II. A Contrast In Death

## Both died

- The rich die too (22). Lk.12:20. Mk.8:36.

## Rich man was buried

- No eulogy could change his destiny
- Poor people often thrown on dump...

## Death is impartial

- From all walks of life...
- “Life is as long as a piece of string”
- 1 Sm.20:3

I. A Contrast In Life

II. A Contrast In Death

III. A Contrast In Eternity

# We have eternity to face; death is not extinction.

- Angels took Lazarus to Abraham's bosom.
  - Man who fed on crumbs is in most honored place. 1 Co.15:55.

Heaven will be all that God's  
loving heart can desire for you.

- Ps.116:15

# Jesus said more about hell than heaven

- If no hell, why did He die?
- Justice of God demands it.
  - Hb.10:30
- Hell is a place of . . . .
  - Sensual misery, 23-25.
  - Emotional misery, 25.
  - Spiritual misery, 27-28.
  - Eternal misery, 26.

# It is more difficult to get into hell than heaven

- Obstacles –
  1. Book of God. Mt.25:41.
  2. Love of God. Ro.2:5.
  3. Providence of God. Lk.13:1-5.
    - Regular reminders warn us...
  4. Common sense.