



The Rich Man and Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31

Something to Start Us Off

- Life is often unfair and regularly difficult. What are some ways we can deal with that harsh reality?

Something to Notice

- Who are the main characters in the story?
- Where do the two men find themselves after they die?
- What reason(s) does Abraham give for not sending Lazarus to help the rich man – or for that matter for not sending anyone to his brothers?

Something to Understand

The name Lazarus appears to be a Greek version of the Hebrew name Elazar = “whom God helps.”

Some Bible teachers label this story as a parable. Others believe it is a true story. In either case, the lesson seems to be about an actual judgment after death, with very real consequences, that is firmly related to opportunities in this life.

- It might be possible to read too much into this detail, but do you see any significance in the fact that we never learn the rich man’s name?
- From what you know about other judgment passages in the Bible, how would you say this passage relates to them? Does it seem to harmonize or connect well with them?
- In v.31, Jesus indicates that having Moses and the Prophets should be enough to bring people to a saving knowledge of God. What might that tell us about evangelism today?

Something to Take Home

- Based on our study of this section of Luke 16, try to state a concise lesson we can draw out of this passage.
- Is there anything else this look at Luke 16:19-31 that you especially want to remember for future reference? Can you explain why?