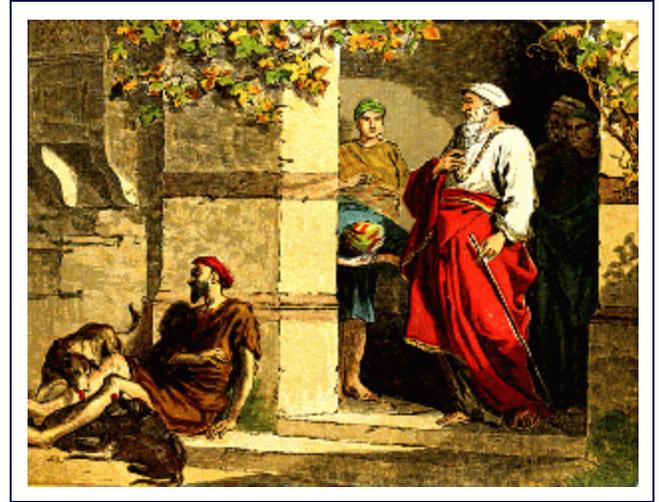


Parable of the Rich Man and Poor Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31

1. *Why is the Word of God so important in your life?*
2. *Why is it so important to hear, learn, and study God's Word?*
3. *What does God's Word have the power to do?*



The Rich Man and Lazarus

Prayer

Dear Father in heaven, Your Word is so very powerful. Please bless our study of it today. Please continue to spread Your Word to the lost souls in this world. Make me a missionary of Your Word. Help me to spread the precious Gospel to my friends and relatives who do not know of Your saving Word. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Parable of the Rich Man and Poor Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)

19 "There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. 20 But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, 21 desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

22 "So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. 23 "And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

24 "Then he cried and said, 'Father

Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.'

25 "But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. 26 'And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.'

27 "Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him



to my father's house, 28 'for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.'

29 "Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.'

30 "And he said, 'No, father Abraham;

but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'

31 "But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'"

Outer Aim

Jesus tells us a parable about true riches.

What the Story Tells Us

- ▶ Luke 16:19 says that the rich man "fared sumptuously every day," what does this mean?
- ▶ According to Luke 16:22 what happened to the beggar when he died?
- ▶ Luke 16:23 says that the rich man was "in torments in Hades." Where is Hades and what does this passage mean?
- ▶ What did the rich man want Father Abraham to do? (See Luke 16:24, 27-31)
- ▶ What is a parable? What can we learn from this parable?

Passages - Read each passage and tell how it applies to you and the lesson.

Luke 4:4 - But Jesus answered him saying, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God."'

Isaiah 55:11 - So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

2 Timothy 3:15 - From childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thought and intents of the heart.

Inner Aim Jesus teaches us about the power of His Word, which alone can convert and save sinners.

Hymn

Read Hymn #264 stanzas 1 and 5. Tell how these stanzas apply to this story. Illustrate the hymn (or part of the hymn) below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Prayer - Write a class prayer thanking God for His saving Word. Ask God to be with you as you work to spread His Word to the unbelievers of this world.