

ASKING FOR A FRIEND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I DIE?

LUKE 16:19-31

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HEAVEN OR HELL

Luke 16:19-31 The Rich Man and Lazarus

“There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried, ²³ and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴ And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ ²⁷ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house— ²⁸ for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ ³⁰ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’ ”

What happens when I die?

- The Rich Man’s confidence was in money. Lazarus’ (poor man) trust was in God – 16:19-21 *“There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores.*

- Money failed to bail out the Rich Man: His god couldn't save him.
- Immediately in the presence of God or in hell – 16:22 *The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried,*
- The Rich Man could remember – 16:23-24 *and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴ And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.'*
 - There is no prestige in hell – 16:25 *But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish.*
 - There is no escape from hell – 16:26 *And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.'*
 - There is no repentance in hell – 16:27-31 *And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— ²⁸ for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.'* ²⁹ *But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.'* ³⁰ *And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'* ³¹ *He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.' "*

Q: According to Jesus, what is the most powerful warning about hell?

A: The witness of God's Word.

"For a lost person, all the good things that they'll experience will be in this life. For a saved person, all the bad things they'll ever experience will be in this life." – Stanley Toussaint