

Preparing for Eternity

Luke 16:19-31

Introduction

Scholars disagree on whether the account of the rich man and Lazarus in Luke Chapter 16 is a parable or a real-life example. But whether Jesus was just using a hypothetical situation or drawing upon an actual event, the point of the teaching remains the same. Namely, how we live our lives now is shaping us for life in eternity.

1. These verses picture the relationship between our life and actions in this present world, compared to our final and irrevocable position in the _____ realm.
2. Jesus also indirectly rules out the teaching that death is _____ and that we cease to exist at death, as well as mortalism or what some call "soul sleep."
3. Jesus reveals that even in _____, there is conscious existence.
4. Sheol, or Hades (as it was called in the O.T.), was a place of _____ described here as two compartments separated by a great gulf.
5. One was called Abraham's Bosom and the place of _____.
6. Satan's Domain is as the Prince and power of the _____, and he is sometimes called the god of this world.
7. Hell or Gehenna is called the _____ of Fire the Book of Revelation.
8. Hell was prepared for _____ and his angels.

9. At His death Christ descended into the lower parts of the earth to Abraham's _____.
10. At the Resurrection of Jesus _____ in Abraham's Bosom were resurrected.
11. Now a believer's spirit goes directly to _____ to be with the Lord.
12. The Spirit and the _____ will be re-united at the Rapture (if you're still alive at the coming of Christ) or the Resurrection (if you've died before the return of Christ).
13. At that time, we will receive a _____ body.

I. A View of This Life

14. The rich man is unnamed, but _____ is the word meaning rich man.
15. Dives knew how to make an _____.
16. The name _____ means "God helped."
17. The Bible teaches that God _____ the poor.
18. Lazarus represents the human _____ at its lowest ebb.
19. Impoverished people have a more difficult time providing for the _____ of life.
20. While the rich man fared sumptuously and had plenty, he _____ to help the poor and withheld from Lazarus even a scrap of food.

II. The Future is Uncertain

21. Both men _____.
22. Lazarus and Dives both had a destiny to keep that went beyond the _____.
23. That's the message that Jesus is trying to get across in this story - Where will you spend _____!
24. Jesus says the ultimate destiny for every one of us is either Heaven or _____.
25. Jesus teaches that the _____ man can feel, think, talk, and hear in the same way that the physical body can.
26. Dives made no _____ for his life in eternity.
27. Many people think they will get to _____ because of their family background, charitable works, or social position.

III. Too Late for Choices

28. Lazarus and Dives were separated by an un-passable _____.
29. Jesus teaches that the life hereafter is based upon the issues and _____ we make in this present life.
30. Dives wants Lazarus to go and try to convince his family not to come to this terrible place of _____.
31. You don't want to wait until you get to eternity before you realize just how important it is to be right with _____.
32. The faith of God is what _____ us, not the personal experience of others.

33. Jesus Christ is our _____ hope of eternal salvation, not an encounter with an angel or a spirit or any other kind of being.

34. Even if Lazarus came back as a ghost from the dead, it wouldn't _____ Dives brothers to walk with God.

Conclusion

35. God measures our lives by the yardstick of _____ and compassion.

The greatest mistake Dives made, and so many people make, is to completely ignore the Word of God and totally disregard the fellowship of true believers. What we do in this life really matters! How we live our lives now is preparing us for our life in eternity. So make a decision to let God into your life each day. Accept the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as sufficient to save you. And realize that this life is the proving grounds for where we will spend eternity.

ANSWERS

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|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Eternal | 17. Helps | 32. Saves |
| 2. Annihilation | 18. Need | 33. Only |
| 3. Death | 19. Essentials | 34. Convince |
| 4. Waiting | 20. Refused | 35. Love |
| 5. Torment | 21. Died | |
| 6. Air | 22. Grave | |
| 7. Lake | 23. Eternity | |
| 8. Satan | 24. Hell | |
| 9. Bosom | 25. Spirit | |
| 10. Saints | 26. Preparati | |
| 11. Heaven | ons | |
| 12. Body | 27. Heaven | |
| 13. Glorified | 28. Gulf | |
| 14. Dives | 29. Choices | |
| 15. Impression | 30. Torment | |
| 16. Lazarus | 31. God | |