

Luke 16:19-31 **Hell is Real – Danger Described**

State of two particular men described

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.

Death of Lazarus and his happy reward

22 So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom.

Death of the rich man and the terrors of Hell

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.'

No one can pass from Hell to Paradise or from Paradise to Hell even on a mission of mercy

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.'

Warn those still on earth of the dreadfulness of the torment of Hell

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.'

If they don't believe the Scriptures, they will not believe someone raised from the dead

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.' " NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✚ This is a real story of real people used to illustrate the desperate state of one who finds himself in the flames of Hell.
 - ✧ This is evidenced by the words "certain rich man" and "Certain beggar named Lazarus."
 - ✧ The luxury of the rich and the wretchedness of the poor are clearly described showing that though the rich man knew about the poverty of the beggar, even knowing him by name, still he did nothing to alleviate the wretched state of the poor though he had it within his power to do so. [Luke 16:19-21]

- ✚ Lazarus died. The angels carried him to the place of comfort with Abraham. [Luke 16:22]
 - ✧ This indicates that before the body is buried and at the time of death the soul goes directly to its final reward.
 - ✧ This would certainly verify the statement of Paul when he wrote: "We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." [2 Corinthians 5:8]
 - ✧ We also learn that Abraham is still alive in the happy place and able to be seen and talk.

- ✧ Lazarus is also visibly alive and comforted. Both of them are obviously at peace.
- ✠ The rich man died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. [\[Luke 16:22-24\]](#)
- ✧ This suggests that Hell is in the lower regions of the earth near the flames of the earth's core and the soul descends to hell from the grave. [\[Psalm 55:15, Proverbs 5:5, 7:27, Isaiah 14:9, Ezekiel 31:15-17, 32:21, Amos 9:2, 2 Peter 2:4\]](#)
- ✧ Adding to the torment of the flames of Hell is the fact that he can see those in paradise and their blessed condition of peace.
- ✧ Having come from the lap of luxury in all his pride and self exaltation, now his torment is so great that even a drop of water on his tongue would be considered a merciful thing.
- ✧ This is in full agreement with the teaching of Hell described where the Lord said, "For their worm does not die, And their fire is not quenched." [\[Isaiah 66:24, Mark 9:43-48\]](#)
- ✠ Abraham's answer is also revealing. [\[Luke 16:25-26\]](#)
- ✧ Abraham is quite aware of the lives they both lived on earth and of their final abode.
- ✧ Abraham is comforted by knowing that the reward each of them received from God is just and exactly right. [\[Ezekiel 14:22-23\]](#)
- ✧ God has placed a barrier between Paradise and Hell so no one can pass from one to the other.
- ✠ The request of the rich man for Lazarus to be sent back to warn his brothers of the terrors of Hell so they would not wind up in that terrible place of torment. [\[Luke 16:27-28\]](#)
- ✧ This indicates the truth of the fact that Hell will not be a place for the wicked to join in fun and games with fellow wicked, continuing their unrestrained life practices enjoyed while alive.
- ✧ It is a dire warning to those still alive to consider where their soul is headed.
- ✠ Abraham said to him, "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them." [\[Luke 16:29\]](#)
- ✧ Scripture is ample evidence and reveals the truth sufficiently for all to know.
- ✠ The rich man said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' [\[Luke 16:30\]](#)
- ✧ People dream of a supernatural event will persuade another of the truth.
- ✠ Abraham said, "**If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.**" [\[Luke 16:31\]](#)
- ✧ This scripture has proven true over the centuries after the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and His appearances to so many eyewitnesses who recorded the fact.
- ✧ So very many do not believe the testimony of the eyewitnesses, or recorded evidence of Scriptural fact.
- ✧ Jesus confirmed all Scriptures after His resurrection and confirmed the truth of Scriptures.
- ✧ Still many who have access to the Scriptures do not believe, but rather they scoff and mock the Scriptures.
- ✧ Doing so they are demonstrating the truth of the words of Abraham and of the Apostles of Jesus, eyewitness testimony.
- ✧ Their end will be the same as that of the rich man, Hell fire, and the Lake of Fire.
- ✧ Will you join the scoffers to the destruction of your own soul in eternal torment, it is real?
- ✧ Will you be persuaded by the testimony of eyewitness accounts, to your own Salvation?
- ✧ The choice is yours to make, and the evidence is compelling.