

## THE RICH MAN ALSO DIED

Text: Luke 16:19-26

INTRO: This passage shows us that there is one experience common to all man-kind-- rich & poor, famous, infamous, & unknown, popular & despised. Let us note a few lessons we learn from the passage.

### I. IN LAZARUS WE SEE...

- A. That you don't have to have money, power, fame or good looks to please God, vs. 20-21.
- B. That the discomforts of this life are momentary compared to eternity. READ 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18.
- C. That death does not have to be a curse, it can be a blessing, vs. 25. Leon Payne's daughter.
- D. That physical ailments are not necessarily a sign that we have displeased God. Job, Paul, Timothy.

### II. IN THE "RICH" MAN WE LEARN...

- A. That no amount of money, popularity, worldly power, etc. can assure us a home in heaven, vs. 19-20.
- B. That the pleasures of sin are fleeting.  
[Moses chose] rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.  
(Heb. 11:25).
- C. That who we know, or to whom we are related, will be of no consequence, vs. 25. Cartoon quip: "I don't care who you know at city hall, Mother."
- D. Financial success is not a sign that one is pleasing to God, vs. 25. Luke 12:20.
- E. Not everyone will be saved.  
Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved? And He said to them, "Strive to enter thru the narrow gate, for many will seek to enter & will not be able." (LK 13:23-24).

F. A person's eternal destiny is sealed at death, vs. 26. Wishing it were not so... Praying to dead saints... Paying a preacher...

III. IN THIS PASSAGE, WE SEE AN EXAMPLE OF THE 2 KINDS OF PHYSICAL DEATH--THE RIGHTEOUS & THE WICKED.

A. The righteous: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints. (Psalm 116:15).

B. The wicked: "As I live," says the Lord God, "I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way & live. Turn, turn, from your evil ways! For why will you die, O house of Israel?" (Ezek. 33:11).

Then I saw the wicked buried who had come & gone from the place of holiness. (Eccl. 8:10).

IV. OUR OWN EXPERIENCE TELLS US THAT DEATH CAN COME AT ANY TIME. Old age, sickness, disease, accidents, war, murder, etc.

V. WE CANNOT AVOID DEATH, BUT WE CAN PREPARE FOR IT.

A. Physically: Life insurance, will etc.

B. Spiritually: Heb 11:6; Acts 17:30-31; Rom 10:10; Acts 22:16; Rev 2:10

CONCLUSION: Who is responsible if you are lost? Not God, John 3:16. Not Jesus, Rom 5:8. Not the H.S., John 16:8, 13. Not the church, Rev 22:17. Not the preacher, Acts 20:26. Someday Jesus will come "in flaming fire, taking vengeance on those who do not know God on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thess. 1:8). Are you ready?

Springhill, La, August 20, 1971

KBSF Radio, Springhill, LA, September 19, 1971

Jonestown, TX, November 25, 1971 (meeting)

La Porte, TX, May 22, 1977

Exton, PA, September 15, 1985

Exton, PA, June 10, 1990

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, September 6, 1998