

Life After Death

Luke 16:19-31

April 10, 2022 | Jeremy Chasteen, Lead Pastor for Strategy

Psalm 90:10 | “The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.”

Psalm 90:12 | “So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.”

Hebrews 9:27-28 | “27 And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, 28 so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.”

BIG IDEA: Death is the beginning of life everlasting for everyone. Are you ready?

I. Live life in light of eternity (16:19-26)

Luke 16:19-26 | “19 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.’”

1. Status does not determine our eternity

Luke 16:13-15 | “13 No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.’ 14 The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they

ridiculed him. 15 And he said to them, 'You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.'

2. Heaven is the eternal reward for the life lived by faith

Psalm 116:15 | "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints."

2 Corinthians 5:6-8 | "6 So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, 7 for we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord."

3. Hell is the eternal punishment for a life lived without faith

i. Torment and anguish

ii. Awareness of blessing and opportunity forfeited

Luke 13:28 | "In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out."

iii. Permanent separation from the presence and blessing of God

II. Respond now to God's saving word (16:27-31)

Luke 16:27-31 | "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.'"

1. Repent and believe

2. Go and tell

Benediction

John 5:24 | “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.”