

## A. SERMON SLIDES

### Slide 1

A Short Story: On Eternity  
Luke 16:19-31

### Slide 2

"There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores.

### Slide 3

Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side.

### Slide 4

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.' 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.

### Slide 5

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.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.'

### Slide 6

But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' 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.' "

### Slide 7

What is the identifying contrast between their lives?

### Slide 8

The main contrast between these lives is that one has been given a name, and one hasn't.

Slide 9

- 1) The Story of a Person Given a Name
- 2) The Story of a Person Who Makes a Name
- 3) How can we be like the Person Given a Name?

Slide 10

Lazarus means "One Whom God Helps"

Slide 11

Lazarus' life was one of patiently depending and waiting on God's help.

Slide 12

"...remember that you in your lifetime received your good things"

Slide 13

The Rich Man's life was one of depending upon and helping himself

Slide 14

Eternity: Our freely chosen, or sovereignly given, identity becoming set and continuing forever.

Slide 15

No person goes to Hell who doesn't want to be there

Slide 16

Hell is finally God simply giving us what we always wanted

Slide 17

How can we be like Lazarus and not the Rich Man?

Slide 18

- 1) Look at your "address" now. You are living in a suburb of a final destination

Slide 19

- 2) Be melted by His love

Slide 20

Isaiah 53:11 (ESV)

Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied

Slide 21

"My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?"

## **B. GROUP DISCUSSION**

- 1) Read the parable and think about what Jesus is trying to communicate. What are some of the possible lessons that also harmonize with the story of the Bible?
- 2) The story is one of identity. How would you describe the identity of Lazarus, and the identity of the Rich Man?
- 3) How does poverty highlight the dependence and patience of Lazarus? How does the comfortable rich life highlight the self-dependence and blindness of the Rich Man?
- 4) How do you find out who you really are? What are some ways that your identity can be seen and understood?
- 5) Why is it theologically true to say that no one goes to Hell that doesn't WANT to be there?  
(Romans 1:18-32)
- 6) What do you really want?
- 7) Prayer and praise