What The Rich Man Would Say

Robert Harkrider · Luke 16:19–31 · Series: **Turning to God**

INTRODUCTION

- This story has fascinated audiences throughout the generations because it furnishes at least a little insight into life after death.
- Whether you call this a parable or actually a real story, you recognize that it really has some truths about it.
- What if the rich man were able to stand here today and preach? What do you think he would say?

1 Instead of a Success, a Failure in Life

- But because of selfishness, he was disgusting in God's sight.
- He obviously failed to realize the seriousness of the present opportunity in preparing his life for eternity.
- This man really understood success in life. He prepared for eternity in such a way, far different from the rich man.

2 Both Died

Hebrews 9:27; Ecclesiastes 12:7; Revelation 6:9–10

- It did not matter that a man was rich or a man was poor. Both died.
- It is appointed in the man once to die. And after this, the judgment.
- Death is separation of the body from the spirit.
- Our bodies will decay, but our spirit, we continue to be alive.
- Consciousness after death is a reality.

3 Two Different Realms for Those Who Die

Matthew 10:28; Mark 9:43–48; Acts 2:27

- But also God is a God of justice, and God has certainly revealed his word that we might know truth.
- Those who reject the gift that God has given, the Son, his only begotten son, cannot expect that God will just overlook that rejection.
- The rich man was in Hades, not yet Gehenna. There's a condition going on before the final judgment.
- Hades is that realm where the spirits of all dead ones go. Righteous or wicked, go to Hades.
- There's a great gulf fixed between the two. One could not cross over to the other.
- There is the realm of Hades described as paradise, where the righteous would go.

4 Keep Your Eyes Set on Heaven

Colossians 3:1–4; Hebrews 6:19; Matthew 24:12–13

- First of all, don't you believe he would say, Keep your eyes set on heaven?
- Now, at this time, he had his sight set where he would like to be. But it's too late for him now.

- If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above. Set your affection on things above, not on things of the earth.
- Sadly, there are some who have once obeyed the gospel who've lost sight of where they're going.
- They pulled up their anchor. Hebrews 6 19 says, Hope is the anchor of the soul.
- There are some people who want to go, but not now.

MY NOTES