

# THE RICH MAN AND THE BEGGAR

Luke 16:10-31.

LESSON 95 -- Primary Course

MEMORY VERSE: "God knoweth your hearts" (Luke 16:15).

## BIBLE TEXT

### Luke 16:10-31.

10 He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

11 If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?

12 And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?

13 No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

14 And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided him.

15 And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

16 The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

17 And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail.

18 Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery.

19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

20 And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,

21 And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

24 And 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.

25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

26 And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

27 Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:

28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

29 Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.

31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

## **NOTES**

### **Rich but Unsaved**

There are many people in this world who want to be rich. God does not say that it is a sin to have money, a beautiful home, and plenty of good food; but He does say it is a sin to love that money, that home, and the things we have, more than we love Him. He tells us that He wants us to love Him more than anything or anybody. And we should love Him more than anything or anybody because He is better, kinder, more loving than anyone else could possibly be. Jesus loved us so much that He died on the cruel cross to save us.

In the Bible we read that God had been very kind to a rich man. God had sent the sunshine and the rain that helped this man's crops to grow. Perhaps the man made much money buying and selling cows or pigs, corn, wheat, or many other things, but without God's help he would have had none of these things. Without the rain and the sunshine, no grass would have grown; there would have been no green pasture for the cattle. He would not have had grass, hay, or corn to feed them. God had helped him to get everything he had. The Bible tells us that he was a rich man, with very good food to eat, but it does not tell us that he loved God. Perhaps he loved his money so much that he forgot that it was God who had given it to him. We know he did not love God, because, when he died, he did not go to be with Jesus.

### **Poor but Saved**

The Bible tells us about another man, named Lazarus, who was very poor and was sick. He was laid at this rich man's gate. Perhaps he was laid there so that the rich man or his rich friends might give him some money as they passed by. He was hoping that he could eat the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table. Perhaps many rich people passed right by this poor man who was covered with sores, and give him nothing.

One day something happened. This poor beggar died, and the angels carried him up to Heaven to be with God. He was with Abraham and all those who loved God. Now he had no more sores; he was perfectly well. Lazarus was not a beggar now; he was given heavenly clothes to wear. He no longer wished for the crumbs from the rich man's table; he had heavenly food that God gave him. He did not have to lie at a rich man's gate; he lived in a beautiful home in Heaven.

### **The Rich Man's Death**

The wicked rich man died, too, and was buried. We are not told that the angels carried him to Heaven as they had carried the poor beggar. This rich man did not like the place he was in. He looked far over into Heaven and there he saw Lazarus, who was once a poor beggar but was now happy with Abraham, far away. We wonder how the rich man could know him when he was so changed. He did not look like the poor, sick beggar who had lain at the gate. Then the man who had been rich called: "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue" (Luke 16:24). He was very unhappy in that place. He could not even have a cool drink of water there. He was being punished because he had not loved and served God in his lifetime.

Then Abraham told the rich man to remember that when he was alive on earth he had had many good things. He perhaps might have said to him, "Don't you remember how very kind God was to you when you lived on the earth, but you either forgot, or did not want to thank God and love Him for all His goodness to you? You remember that Lazarus had very little; that he was covered with sores; but he loved God and was thankful for even the little bit that he did have. Now you are sorry that you are in such a bad place and you know the reason, too; but Lazarus has all the good things and is very happy in Heaven with God and Jesus and the angels. He will always be there and always be happy."

Abraham said that it was impossible for anyone to go from Heaven to hell, and from hell to Heaven (Luke 16:26). Then the man who had been rich on earth asked Abraham to send Lazarus to his father's house and to his five brothers. He, no doubt, wanted Lazarus to tell them not to forget to obey God, and not to forget to thank God for everything. He wanted them to be saved. He did not want his brothers to come to that bad

place, too. Abraham told him that it would do no good to send someone to talk to his brothers, because they would not believe what was told them. He said that they had the Book that Moses and the other good men had written; and if they read that, believed it, and obeyed it, they would not have to come to that bad place.

How thankful we should be to God that we have the Bible, which tells us that Jesus died for us so that we could believe on Him, and obey Him, and go to a beautiful Heaven and there be happy forever with God and with Jesus. If we love Jesus and do the good things He tells us to do, we shall someday be in that same lovely place where Lazarus is. Think how wonderful it will be to have such a beautiful Home in which to live, where there is nothing to make us sick, nothing to cause us to cry, nothing to take our Christian father and mother away from us. There we shall hear the music of the angels, sing the lovely songs of Heaven, and thank God forever for all His goodness to us. Let us not forget to be thankful every day that we live.

### **QUESTIONS**

1. Where was the beggar taken when he died? Luke 16:22.
2. Who had many good things on earth, the rich man or Lazarus? Luke 16:25.
3. Which one had the better part after death? Luke 16:25.
4. What did the rich man want Lazarus to do for his brothers? Luke 16:27, 28.
5. Is it hard for a rich man to go to Heaven? Matthew 19:24-26.

LESSON RESOURCES

TITLE

# THE RICH MAN AND THE BEGGAR

Lesson 95

Luke 16:10-31

# Something More Than Gold

WATCH AND PRAY 68



s. d. d. m. m. r. r. d. m. s. s. l. l. s:.

s. l. l. s. s. f. f. m. m. r. s. s. fe. s:.

s. d. d. m. m. r. r. d. m. s. s. l. l. s:.

s. l. l. s. s. f. f. m. m. s. f. m. r. d:.



# Something More Than Gold

A certain man of whom we read,  
Who lived in days of old  
Though he was rich, he felt his need  
Of something more than gold,  
Oh, yes my friend, there's something more  
There's something more than gold  
To know your sins are all forgiv'n  
Is something more than gold.

# Something More Than Gold

A certain man of whom we read,  
Who lived in days of old  
Though he was rich, he felt his need  
Of something more than gold,  
Oh, yes my friend, there's something more  
There's something more than gold  
To know your sins are all forgiv'n  
Is something more than gold.



PICTURE 2





PICTURE 3

