

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



*glimpses
of glory*

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MUSIC: REBECCA PETERSEN

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The Rich Man and Lazarus: Deep Pockets & Empty Hearts Luke 16:19-31

Review

Remembering Luke so far... Jesus, The Pharisees, & Money

Remember the preceding parables:

Luke 15:11-32: The Prodigal Son: Relationship with the father is better than anything this world has to offer!

Luke 16:1-18: The Parable of the Dishonest Manager: View money properly!

Luke 16:13 *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."*

Luke 16:14-15 *The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all that Jesus was saying and were sneering at Jesus. He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. What people value highly is detestable in God's sight."*

Setting The Scene: The Rich Man and The Poor Lazarus (Luke 16:19-21)

Luke 16:19 *"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.*

The Eternal Reversal: No Respite for the Rich Man (Luke 16:22-26)

1. The Rich Man and Lazarus have switched places in death. (vv. 22-23)

Luke 16:22 *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.*

2. This reversal is eternal; None may cross the chasm after the fact. (vv. 24-26)

Luke 16:24 *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.'*

Our Place In The Story: The Rich Man, Lazarus, or the Five Brothers? (Luke 16:19-21)

1. We have all that we need in order to put our trust in God. (vv. 27-29)

Luke 16:27 *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.'*

2. Not even the miracle of resurrection will convince a hardened heart. (vv. 30-31)

Luke 16:30 *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.'"*

Application/Reflection Questions:

1. Jesus makes it clear through this series of parables that our worldly pride & wealth can blind us of our need for God and his saving grace. When it comes to your time, energy, and life goals, are you really working to become more like Lazarus (the one whom God helps), or like the rich man (fine clothes, ignoring those in need, worldly wealth)?
2. All that we need to make our decision to trust the Savior has been given to us (vv. 27-31). What are you doing to ensure those that God has placed in your life are receiving what they need in order to make that same decision?
3. In eternity, there is "a great chasm" which nobody may cross between heaven and hell (v. 26). Evaluate how you can cultivate and grow your excitement for heaven, and remind yourself of what is facing those who don't choose to receive the word of life.

SONGS

"10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD)"

"GOD IS FOR US"

"GOODNESS OF GOD"

"FOREVER"

Altamont Music Pastor: Shawn Hoelsch (shawn@vbc.online)

Behold Podcast: vbc.online/behold

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 21,523.31

2024 TOTAL GIVING: \$ 63,434.77

ALTAMONT CAMPUS EXPANSION FUND:
(Last Entry 01/09) \$ 120,513.50

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Communication & Giving: Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, & communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please pass the envelopes to the ushers or deposit them in the offering boxes by the exit doors. Thank you!