SEVEN LESSONS A LOST MAN LEARNED TOO LATE

Luke 16: 19 -31

INTRODUCTION:
1. The rich man and Lazarus have furnished material for all kinds of lessons for man today.
2. These seven lessons the rich man learned are lessons all of us are going to learn either now, or later.
3. We all need to learn them NOW.

I. HE LEARNED THAT MATERIAL RICHES ARE NOT FOR ETERNITY -- Luke 16: 19 - 22
    1. Paul said, "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out" -- I Tim. 6: 6 - 10
    2. Solomon said, "I hated all my labour which I had taken under the sun; because I should leave it unto the man that shall be after me" -- Eccl. 2:18 -- Read Eccl. 2:19
    3. Jesus, on this subject -- Matt. 6: 19 - 21
    4. Paul teaches that we MUST USE our material goods IF HEAVEN is to be our home -- I Tim. 6: 17 - 19
        (1) Eph. 4:28
        (2) I Cor. 16: 1 - 2
        (3) II Cor. 9: 6 - 9

II. HE LEARNED TORMENT IS REAL
    1. He died, "and in Hades he lifts up his eyes, being in torments" -- Luke 16: 23 - 24
    2. From these passages we learn that a man, as soon as he dies, if he is wicked goes to hades to be in torments and flame -- Luke 16: 23 - 24
    3. And after the Judgment he will go to HELL to be in "The lake of fire" -- Rev. 20: 14 - 15
    4. Yes, my friends, Hell is REAL
        (1) Everlasting fire -- Matt. 25:41
        (2) Unquenchable fire -- Mark 9: 46, 48
        (3) Furnace of fire -- Matt. 13:42
        (4) II Thess. 1: 8 - 9
        (5) Matt. 25:30
        (6) Rev. 20:10
III. HE LEARNED THE EQUITY OR FAIRNESS OF DIVINE JUSTICE

1. The rich man in his lifetime received good things -- Luke 16: 25
   (1) Riches
   (2) Clothed in purple and fine linen
   (3) Fared sumptuously every day
   (4) Good health
   (5) Home of comfort
   (6) Friends

2. He did wrong, but all went well in this life.

3. But, in the end it was not well with him -- Luke 16: 23 - 24; Eccl. 8: 12 - 13

4. In this life things did not go well with Lazarus -- Luke 16: 20 - 21
   (1) Poor
   (2) Not enough clothes
   (3) Desired crumbs
   (4) Poor health
   (5) Homeless
   (6) No friends -- the dogs came and licked his sores

5. But, Lazarus did right before God.

6. So, in the end, all was well with him -- Luke 16: 22, 25; Eccl. 8:12; Psa. 73: 1 - 24

IV. THE LOST STATE IS HOPELESS

1. When one dies his destiny is sealed.

2. In hades there is a great gulf fixed between the righteous and the wicked, and there can be no changing -- Luke 16:26
   (1) Luke 16:23 -- "afar off"

3. The wicked will be punished with everlasting destruction away from the presence of the Lord-- II Thess. 1: 8 - 9; Rev. 20:14

V. HE LEARNED MAN'S NEED OF CONVERSION

1. The rich man did not want his five brothers to be lost -- Luke 16: 27 - 28

2. But he knew they would be lost if they were not converted -- Luke 16:28

3. He knew why he was lost -- he was not converted while he lived on earth.

4. Men are in sin and lost today, and need conversion -- Rom. 3:23; Mark. 16: 15 - 16
VI. HE LEARNED THE WAY OF SALVATION
   1. He had lived on earth under the Law of Moses-- and the way of salvation was to hear that Law -- Luke 16: 29 - 31; Psa. 19:7; Psa. 51:13
   2. TODAY we are NOT living under the Law of Moses -- Col. 2:14; Eph. 2: 15
   3. Today we ARE under the Law of Christ -- Gal. 6:2; Rom. 1:16; Heb. 1:2
   4. We must obey the gospel -- Rom. 10:16; II Thess. 1:8; Mark 16: 15 - 16; Acts 3:19

VII. HE LEARNED THE TIME OF OBEDIENCE IS WHILE WE LIVE ON EARTH
   1. He wanted his five brethren to do something before it was too late -- Luke 16: 27 - 31
   2. "Now is the day of salvation" -- II Cor. 6:2
   3. We have no way of knowing what will be on the morrow -- James 4: 13 - 16; Luke 12:20
   4. Felix put off salvation until a "convenient season" -- Acts 24: 24 - 25
   5. I say to you -- This is your convenient season!

CONCLUSION:
   1. Those of you in this assembly today that are out of Christ -- if you should die the next thing you would do is lift your eyes, being in torments.
   3. Won’t you come today?

Donald Townsley