

Parables Series Part 6 Rich Man and Lazarus Ryan White/Family Pastor — March 4, 2018 Luke 16:19-31; John 5:25-29

This parable is about **Economics**.

This parable is about **Eternal Destiny**.

- God desires that <u>None</u> should perish, but that all would come to experience abundant, everlasting life. BUT, at a certain point, <u>God</u> honors our <u>Choices</u>.
- Hell is quite simply <u>Eternal Separation</u> from God and it's its own <u>Punishment</u> because one cannot find life, beauty, goodness, and peace apart from Him.

The question is not '<u>Why</u>?' but '<u>What Now?'</u> What matters is how we choose to <u>respond</u> to the situations in our lives.

- 1. Jesus wants us to know that there is *Life after death*.
- 2. Jesus informs us that there is such a thing as Judgement.
- 3. Jesus desperately communicates to us that there is no *changing direction* after death.
- 4. Jesus reminds us that **today** is the day of **Salvation**.

Why name the poor man Lazarus, "the one who God helps"?

- God <u>desired</u> to help Lazarus in his days of earthly suffering and He was looking for one of His followers to be
 His helping hands.
- It shows that Jesus *knows* his name and forces us to *notice* the 'Lazaruses' God has laid at our gates.
- Jesus calls him 'Lazarus' because he has in fact given the rich man that **sign** for which he asked! (See John 11.)

Choose life! Choose the Life Giver!

