

THE PARABLE OF THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the parable of “the rich man and Lazarus” from the New American Catholic Bible or a Catholic Bible of your choice. Then read aloud each verse that accompanies a question. Stop and discuss the question and answer.

The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus. ¹⁹ “There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day.

²⁰ And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,

²¹ who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man’s table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores.

²² When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham.

The rich man also died and was buried,

²³ and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side.

²⁴ And he cried out, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.’

²⁵ Abraham replied, ‘My child, remember that you received what was good during your

lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented.

²⁶ Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.'

²⁷ He said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house,

²⁸ for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.'

²⁹ But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.'

³⁰ He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

³¹ Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'" (NAB)

1. Read Luke 16:19. There was once a rich man that daily: a. wore the finest clothes that money could buy. b. ate the best food. c. lived in luxury. d. lived the American dream of wealth and prosperity. e. all of the above.

2. Read Luke 16:20. There was a poor man who was reduced to begging that was named Lazarus: a. he was placed at the rich man's door so he could

beg for food. b. he was in perfect health. c. he was diseased, that is, covered with sores.

3. Read Luke 16:21. Lazarus the beggar was: a. longing for some food. b. hoping for some scraps to eat from the table of the rich man. c. sick with sores. d. all of the above.

Additional Information: Probably the rich man was glad to get rid of this poor beggar that sat at his door. He was an eye sore to him and his other rich guest that he partied with. Later the rich man himself died.

4. Read Luke 16:22. When the poor beggar died angels came and lifted him from his body to a place of comfort beside Abraham. True or False.

5. Read Luke 16:23. The rich man had died, his body including his eyes were buried in the ground. Beyond the grave in the spiritual realm the rich man could see (and he didn't need glasses). True or False

6. Read Luke 16:23. The rich man had died, his body was buried in the ground. Beyond the grave in the spiritual realm he could feel (he was suffering in torment). True or False

7. Read Luke 16:24. The rich man had died, his body was buried in the ground. Beyond the grave in the spiritual realm he could talk. True or False

8. Read Luke 16:24. On the other side of the grave, the rich man cried out for mercy but found none. True or False

9. Read Luke 16:25. The rich man had died, his body was buried in the ground, but he could remember the events of life on earth. True or False

10. Read Luke 16:26. Abraham said, There is a great chasm (gulf) separating us. People are stopped at its edge; no one can cross over from you to us, even if he wanted to. True or False

11. Read Luke 16:27-28. The dead rich man had a request for the living on earth. 'Warn my brothers, they are on the same path I was, they must choose another path.' True or False

12. Read Luke 16:29. If people would heed to the Scripture (Moses and the prophets) they could avoid the rich man's fate. True or False

13. Read Luke 16:30. According to verse 30, people could avoid this place of torment if they would only: a. turn to God. b. have a change of heart and proof it by what they do. c. repent. d. all of the above.

21. People must believe and take heed to God's instructions. Their life depends on it. True or False

22. Discuss what you learned from this lesson.

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