

Lessons in Luke -- Lesson 9 – Jesus, the Rich Man, and Lazarus

Introduction:

Simeon prophesied over baby Jesus that He would raise up many weak persons and bring down many proud persons (Luke 2:33-35). This week we study Luke 16:19-31.

Read this passage at least five times, then answer the questions as best you can:

¹⁹ "There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. ²⁰ "But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, ²¹ "desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, the dogs came and licked his sores.

²² "So it was that the beggar died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ "And being in torments in Hades (hell), he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

²⁴ "Then 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 in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. ²⁶ 'And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.'

²⁷ "Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, ²⁸ 'for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.'

²⁹ "Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.'

³⁰ "And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'

³¹ "But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'" (Luke 16:19-31 NKJ)

Jesus tells us this account. Does Jesus believe in hell? What is hell like? Does the rich man get a second chance to make the right decision about heaven and hell?

Does poverty get Lazarus into heaven? Do riches send the rich man to hell? Re-read Luke 7:50. What saves a person?

How many brothers does the rich man have? What is their spiritual state? What does the rich man want Father Abraham to do for his brothers? Why does Abraham refuse?

Based on what Jesus says here, what is wrong with this: "Hell won't be such a bad place. I'll be there with my friends."

"Moses and the prophets" (verse 31) is another way of saying "the Bible." What responsibility does every man have to read and obey the Bible?