

The Rich Man and Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31

by Don Falkos

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Jesus told a story:

Once there was a rich man who lived in complete luxury. There was also a very poor man named Lazarus who had sores all over his body and his only friends were the wild dogs that came and licked those sores. All Lazarus wanted was a few scraps of food from the rich man's table, but he never got them.

The time came when Lazarus died. The rich man also died. From among the dead, he could see Father Abraham far off, and with him was Lazarus. He called out, "Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water to cool my tongue. I am in agony in this fire."

Abraham responded, "My son, remember during your lifetime you had everything you wanted, while Lazarus had nothing. Now he is being comforted here while you suffer. Besides, there is a chasm between us that no one can cross in either direction."

"Then please, send Lazarus to my father's house. I have five brothers. He must warn them so they don't end up in this terrible place."

"Your brothers should listen to Moses and the prophets."

"No, they won't. But if someone were to return from the dead, I'm sure they would completely change the way they think and act."

"If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone returns from the dead."