



*Unique  
to Luke*

THE RICH MAN & LAZARUS  
LUKE 16:19-31

## LUKE 16:19-21

<sup>19</sup> “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. <sup>20</sup> At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores <sup>21</sup> and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.



# PURPOSE OF PARABLES

(Picture Stories)

## MEANINGFUL + MEMORABLE

“The Gospel parables of Jesus are full of **everyday** **ordinariness** along with **God-awareness**. The stage of daily life becomes a scene for viewing the world from God's perspective.”

– Brad Young, *The Parables*



## CONTEXT

### LUKE 16:13-15

<sup>13</sup> “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and money.**

<sup>14</sup> The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. <sup>15</sup> He said to them, “You are the ones who **justify yourselves** in the eyes of others, but **God knows your hearts**. What people value highly is detestable in God’s sight.

## LUKE 16:22-24

<sup>22</sup> “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In **Hades**, where he was in **torment**, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.

<sup>24</sup> So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in **agony** in this **fire**.’



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THE RICH MAN  
ONLY SEES  
LAZARUS  
WHEN HE  
NEEDS HIM

...send Lazarus to dip the tip of  
his finger in water and cool my  
tongue...

(Luke 16:24)

## LUKE 16:25-26

<sup>25</sup> “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, **remember** that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.

<sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you a **great chasm** has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’



THERE IS A  
GREAT CHASM  
NOW...

...BUT HASN'T  
THERE BEEN  
A CHASM ALL  
ALONG?



## LUKE 16:27-28

<sup>27</sup> “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, **send Lazarus** to my family, <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’



THE RICH MAN  
STILL WANTS  
LAZARUS  
TO SERVE  
HIM

‘Then I beg you, father, send  
Lazarus to my family...

(Luke 16:27)



# NEVER HIS NEIGHBOUR

- **AT THE GATE:** LAZARUS EXISTS  
OUTSIDE HIS CONCERN
- **IN HADES:** LAZARUS BECOMES  
USEFUL TO HIM
- **IMPASSABLE CHASM:** LAZARUS BECOMES  
USEFUL TO HIS FAMILY

## LUKE 16:29-31

<sup>29</sup> “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

<sup>30</sup> “‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

<sup>31</sup> “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”





## LISTEN TO MOSES AND THE PROPHETS...

- Don't be hardhearted or tight-fisted toward the poor. - **Deuteronomy 15**
- Don't harvest everything for yourself; leave something for the poor and foreigner. - **Leviticus 19**
- Isn't this the kind of worship I desire: share your food with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house? - **Isaiah 58**
- Woe to those who live comfortably and feast while remaining unmoved by the suffering around them. - **Amos 6**

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## MATTHEW 5:17-18

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

<sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

THE  
SACRIFICIAL  
FULFILMENT  
OF THE LAW +  
PROPHETS

JESUS WILL  
RISE FROM  
THE DEAD



- For those who are **tempted to serve both God and money...**
- For those who **love money...**
- For those who **justify themselves...**

## LUKE 16:25

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