

2) You remember this morning I talked to you about the young man who told me that what he had seen was the most important thing in life to him -

Well I suppose that experience prompted me to consider an message for tonight.

Of all the stories Jesus told this one recorded in Luke 16:19-31 is perhaps to me that causes me to examine my priorities more than any other -

For here in very graphic words our Lord speaks of the misapplied values of people -

Here in a very real way Jesus gives insight to the hereafter.

The story has two primary characters -

one Poor - The other Rich,  
But by the time the story  
is ended we must know  
that around -

For the Poor man is Rich  
And the Rich man is Poor.

Let's read about these two  
men - U-19-20-21

Jesus says: There was a  
certain Rich man

"No Name Given - Simply  
stating his position according  
to worldly considerations

And Jesus describes him  
clearly the way the man  
dressed & lived -

Purple & Fine Linen

Purple, usually worn by  
Royalty or extremely  
wealthy people.

Fine lives & Imported  
material, very expensive  
Everything about the man  
Spoke of Wealth —

The man had done  
well materially  
Speaking —

And his table was something  
else —

He feasted every day  
as the very best —

Cost was of no consequence.

But every day as he left  
his home he had to pass  
by a poor Beggar —

His Name was Lazarus

His name meant Destitute  
In need of help —

Every day someone took  
the poor man and set  
him at the Rich man's Gate.

Perhaps by another poor  
person ~~hoping~~ that the  
man might receive some  
aid from the man who  
had so much -

Not only was he poor but  
there were sores all over  
his body -

Repulsive, you better believe it

But all he was interested  
in was what the man  
allowed to fall on the  
floor -

Dear hearts, if ever there  
was a contrast, Jesus  
gave it here -

I had a lady come to  
me after we preached  
a message on this

And she said: Preacher  
don't ever preach on  
that again -

I asked her this question  
Do you want to hear  
the word of God or not  
Her Reply = of course.

So we found: Dear lady, from  
reading from God's word

And we are too right, you  
see Jews had just  
been talking to a people  
like women -

who measured the good  
life by what they could  
hold in their hand -

And while He had  
their attention,  
Jews told them  
about the "Really  
Good life"

For contrary to popular  
belief - there are no  
other opportunities to  
alter priorities after  
this life ends. Amen.

There come a time when  
the rich man became poor  
And the poor man  
became rich -

And dear hearts it  
happened in the  
twinkling of a eye.

Blink your eye

That's how quick.

The Bible tells us that  
both men died But  
notice the wording.

U-22

when Lazarus died  
he traded his **Rags**  
for riches -

Never again to lay on  
the street with his  
head out.

Abramshoms bosom nigh his  
In the presence of God  
An intimate personal  
Relationship —

Being Among Friends  
Loving & Being Loved

He did not gain the whole  
world - But neither did  
he lose his soul —

But what about the Rich  
man - He also died  
And his body was put  
into the ground —

Well you say - That's  
not so bad "Heard the best"

He closed his eyes here  
And opened them in hell

A place reserved for  
folks who had no  
time for Jesus  
here —

A place far separated  
from the righteous -

"And he woke up hunting"  
Jerome here means:  
"Jerkle Cain - Arguish"

But I believe what meant  
or bad as any thing was

"When he looked up -  
He saw Lazarus in the  
abode of the righteous.

The man who refused even  
to cast a look at the  
poor beggar, covered  
with sores, now asked

that Lazarus dip his  
fingers in water and  
touch his toe -

Why? Because the  
Anguish & distress was  
so great that he couldn't  
stand it -



But dear hearts - after  
death it's too late to  
consider the consequences.

The Voice from Heaven said:  
you had your opportunities  
you would not accept  
them -

You gained the world,  
But what good did it  
do you —

Oh I wish Norman was  
here - But maybe you  
knew some "Normans"

Maybe this message came  
because someone you  
knew was making the  
same terrible mistake  
as the Rich man - of Normans.

The rich man didn't  
have time to look  
Norman did not have  
time to listen -

But I'm convinced that  
one day - there will be  
time to do both. Ames

And this fears spoke of  
a Great Gulf - Between  
Heaven & hell -

A chasm - broad yawning  
Space

No way to get from one  
to the other -

It's Fixed // Immovable

Now folks in hell wished  
that weren't so -

They would love to  
change places once  
they have been  
there -

I believe folks in hell  
can view the eternal  
Bliss of Heavens - Perhaps  
part of their punishment  
But I don't believe  
folks in Heaven can  
see or come to see  
any thing other than  
the glorious Reward  
they have inherited

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Well the rich man suddenly  
got converted for others  
in his family -

If Lazarus can't come  
and help me, send  
him back to help  
my brethren -

I don't want anyone  
to have to share in  
this terrible place  
His condition was  
eternally Fixed

maybe one returning from  
the dead could convince  
them -

But the Answer was "No"  
You had the words of  
Moses & the prophets

You had opportunity  
to prepare yourself

But didn't —

If they refuse to heed these  
precious words - One from  
the dead would not convince  
them -

Oh Dear ones, people  
are refusing to  
heed the word of God  
all about us —

But if ever they would  
consider the consequences  
perhaps they would change  
Priorities

There are 4 note worthy things to consider here.

- ① The soul does not die with the Body —
- ② There is a Consciousness of the soul it does not sleep as some say until Resurrection day —
- ③ Our Destiny becomes a reality in the blink of an eye
- ④ Wealth does our no good when death occurs —

Have I told you about the Cemetery in Winstan - Salem North Carolina.

all tomb stones are the same - For the rich or Poor.

Saying death is the Great Equalizer.

⑤ Don't envy the rich  
if you have Jesus

⑥ There are things more  
important than worldly  
riches.

Oh I wish Norman would  
have listened -  
we tried.

Do you know a Norman,  
if so reach out to him -

How shall they know  
unless, we saved people  
tell them —

God help all the  
normans in the  
world

And God help us to do  
all we can to persuade  
men, women, boys & girls  
to come to Jesus —