

The Parable of the Beggar and the Rich Man Luke 16:25 – 37

This parable continues the narrative about our attitude toward money and even broadens the discussion to rejection of Jesus and personal selfishness.

Let's read the first part of the parable **Luke 16:19 – 21**.

Note that neither Jesus or Luke definitively describes this as a parable but according to Dr. Just in his *Concordia Commentary* on **Luke**, most authorities treat it as a parable. What do your commentaries say?

Besides one person being poor and one being rich what difference stands out between the two men described in the text?

What does the name Lazarus mean?

What is the significance of the rich man “feasting sumptuously every day”?

What picture of Lazarus comes to mind from verse 21?

Let's finish the parable. Read **Luke 16:22 – 31**.

What is meant by Lazarus being carried to Abraham's bosom? (Hint: Think of the audience for this parable.)

What are your thoughts on the rich man being in dialog with Abraham in heaven and Abraham's response about the fixed chasm between Heaven and Hell? See also **Isaiah 66:24** and **Revelation 14:9 – 11**.

Note that rich man does not ask to be released from hell or ask for forgiveness. What could this indicate about the mindset of those in hell?

Considering that the Rich Man asks Abraham to send Lazarus to cool his tongue, what does this indicate about the Rich Man's attitude toward Lazarus?

What attitude(s) does the Rich Man display in his request to send Lazarus, back from the dead to his brothers?

What is the significance of the Rich Man protesting Abraham's response that the brothers have Moses and the Prophets?

How does this apply to us today, especially in light of having the New Testament?

What is the larger significance of Abraham saying that they will not be convinced by someone rising from the dead?

How would you respond/reach out to someone who says, I cannot believe a loving God would send people to Hell?

What is Hell?

How does denying the existence of Hell impact our beliefs about Jesus' death on the Cross?
