What the Dead Want Us to Know

NOTE: All scriptures for this sermon are from the New American Standard Bible (NASB)

Text: Luke 16:19-31

19 "Now there was a rich man, and he habitually dressed in purple and fine linen, enjoying himself in splendor every day. **20** "And a poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores, **21** and longing to be fed from the *scraps* which fell from the rich man's table; not only *that,* the dogs also were coming and licking his sores. **22** "Now it happened that the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's arms; and the rich man also died and was buried. **23** "And in Hades he raised his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his arms. **24** "And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me and send Lazarus, so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.' **25** "But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony. **26** 'And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set, so that those who want to go over from here to you will not be able, nor will *any people* cross over from there to us.' **27** "And he said, 'Then I request of you, father, that you send him to my father's house— **28** for I have five brothers—in order that he may warn them, so that they will not come to this place of torment as well.' **29** "But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' **30** "But he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!' **31** "But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'"

What the Bibe Says About this Place:

1. Don't Come to This Place
2. Because it is a Place of Torment
3. Tell People to Listen to GOD's Messengers Before it's too Late

Point #1: Don't Come to This Place

Luke 16:28

for I have five brothers—in order that he may warn them, so that they will not come to this place of torment as well.'

Acts 2:40

And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on urging them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!"

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I Thessalonians 4:6

and that no one violate the rights and take advantage of his brother or sister in the matter, because the Lord is the avenger in all these things, just as we also told you previously and solemnly warned you.

Point #2: Because it is a Place of Torment

Luke 16:28

for I have five brothers—in order that he may warn them, so that they will not come to this place of torment as well.'

Revelation 14:11

"And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Revelation 21:8

"But for the cowardly, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and sexually immoral persons, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Revelation 21:10

And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

Point #3: Tell People to Listen to GOD's Messengers Before it's too Late

Luke 16:29-31

29 "But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' **30** "But he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!' **31** "But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Matthew 5:29-30

29 "Now if your right eye is causing you to sin, tear it out and throw it away from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your *body,* than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. **30** "And if your right hand is causing you to sin, cut it off and throw it away from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your *body,* than for your whole body to go into hell.

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Revelation 20:12-15

12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. **13** And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them; and they were judged, each one *of them* according to their deeds. **14** Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. **15** And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

RESPONSE TO THE INVITATION OF FAITH:

1. **HEAR the GOSPEL ~ Romans 10:17**
   So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.
2. **BELIEVE ~ Hebrews 11:6**
   But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is and He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.
3. **REPENT ~ Luke 13:3**
   I tell you nay; but except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish.
4. **CONFESS ~ Matthew 10:32-33**
   Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.
5. **BE BAPTIZED ~ Acts 22:16**
   And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.
6. **BE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH ~ Revelation 2:10**
   Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.