



Creyentes Bíblicos de la Gracia
Grace Bible Believers

www.badnewsgoodnews.net
info@badnewsgoodnews.net

Apartado 143
29631 Arroyo de la Miel (Málaga)
ESPAÑA / SPAIN
Tel.: (+34) 636 993 444

=====

LIFE AFTER DEATH

The story of the rich man and Lazarus in Luke 16:19-31 is based on truths from which we can learn certain facts about the state of those who have experienced physical death. Facts which are consistent with what is found in other places in the bible. From this bible story we know the following:

1. After physical death, individuals continue to exist in a state of personal consciousness (vv. 22-25, Revelation 6:9-10);
2. Having experienced physical death, the individual's destiny is sealed. There is no opportunity to cross over from the place of utter hopelessness to a place of hope after physical death (vv. 25-26);
3. Hades (the present hell) is not a figure of speech but a real place of suffering (vv. 23-24) to which the unsaved go to await the final judgment. They will stay there until the time of the

resurrection to condemnation when they will be cast into the lake of fire (the final hell, Revelation 20:11-15);

4. There is a place, referred to here as the bosom of Abraham (v. 22), which is a place of comfort (v. 25) and quietude. The saved go there until the time of their resurrection unto life. This place is also referred to as "*paradise*" in the bible (Luke 23:39-43). Originally it was a partitioned section of hades but was moved to heaven after Christ's resurrection. Paul speaks of being "*caught up into paradise*" (2 Corinthians 12:4). This implies that grace saints and kingdom saints may jointly occupy paradise until the time of their respective resurrections;

5. After physical death, unsaved individuals will have regretful memories of the past and knowledge of their hopeless future (vv. 25-28);

6. After having died, individuals go to hades or paradise and are not able to return or send back messages to those who are still living (vv. 26-28). Samuel, Moses and Elijah are exceptions, having been sent by God as special envoys (see 1 Samuel 28:3-20 and Luke 9:28-36). No one can return by an act of their own will or be summoned to return from beyond the grave by mediums, channelers, etc. The Scriptures leave no possibility for reincarnation and spiritism.

7. Neither the saved or the lost will ever cease to exist, nor will they exist without form between physical death and the resurrection. Both have a temporary form of some kind that enables them to see, speak, hear and feel (vv. 22-25). While this form is of a spiritual nature and substance, it is still a tangible form. The inter-dispensational principle that we learn from the story of the rich man and Lazarus is that it is only in this life that any man or woman has the opportunity to be reconciled to God. For those who die in unbelief, there is no second chance and there is no one to

intervene on their behalf. To die without Christ is to be separated from God forever, first, in the torments of hades and finally in the lake of fire. As believers, this should move us with compassion for the lost and stimulate us to use every means available to proclaim the gospel of grace as far and wide as possible.

(Source: 'The State and Place of the Dead' by Dr. W. Edward Bedore)