

Sermon: The Kingdom (After) Life.
Series: Luke: The Gospel for Everyone.

Scripture: Luke 16:19-31.
Date: October 19, 2025.

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) What stands out to you from this parable? Does it challenge any of your beliefs about the afterlife? The future kingdom of Christ?
- b) The rich man is a picture of the Pharisees and us too. We said that the Pharisees tried to lessen the law so that they could “keep” the law, and in so doing they were rejecting the gospel (Luke 16:16-17). Can you think of any ways that you try to lessen God’s standard so that you can feel like you’re keeping his commands?
- c) Re-read Lk. 16:27-31. Why do you think it is so likely that if we reject the scriptures we will also reject the resurrection of Christ?

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

- a) How does this parable point to both the justice and the mercy of God?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

- a) Can you explain why the rich man went to Hades rather than to Abraham’s side? Read Romans 3:21-22. How does this scripture explain the fate of the rich man and Lazarus?
- b) In what ways is Lazarus a picture of Jesus? Why is faith in Christ’s resurrection the foundation of our salvation (see Rom. 10:9) and our own great reversal?

APPLICATION

- a) No suffering is meaningless. Read 2 Corinthians 4:17 and Romans 8:18. What glory in the afterlife are you most looking forward to? What affliction have you faced or are facing that you can’t wait for God to reverse in Heaven’s glory?
- b) The reality of the afterlife and the great reversal has already begun in our hearts. Which of the following applications of our great reversal resonates with you?
 - Let it replace self-focus with Christ and others focus.
 - Let it free you from expecting this life to be heaven/paradise.
 - Let it free you from fear, doubt, and control.
 - Let it empower you to help the poor and the needy.

PRAYER

- Acknowledge God’s justice and mercy and our need for both.
- Confess ways that you have rejected God’s word (law and/or gospel).
- Thank Jesus for his resurrection – the greatest reversal ever.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to live in light of the afterlife.