

Five Minutes after We Die

(Luke 16:19-31)

I.. Introduction

- A. According to a survey in U.S. News & World Report 78% of Americans believe there is a heaven
- B. 60% believe there is a hell
- C. Of those who believe in an afterlife, 78% believe they have an excellent chance of going to heaven
- D. 4% believe they have an excellent chance of going to hell
- E. Only 83% of church members knew they'd go to heaven.
- F. 3% of church members said they'd go to hell.
- G. So 14% of church members don't know where they're headed.

II. We shall be Conscious

- A. In vs.22 we see that both Lazarus & the rich man had died.
- B. Yet we see in vs. 23 that both survived death.
- C. Your final destiny is not the ground in which you're buried.

III. We shall be Cognizant

- A. The rich man was cognizant about his PAST. (Luke 16:25)
- B. The rich man was cognizant about his PRESENT. (Luke 16:23-24)

IV. We shall be with Christ

- A. Lazarus was carried to Abraham's side by the angels. (Luke 16:22)
- C. Christianity is not a hope-so but a know-so salvation. (1John 5:12-13)
- D. To be with Christ should be the desire of every Christian. (2Cor. 5:8)

V. Our Conclusion will be fixed for eternity.

- A. The rich man chose an eternity separated from God while he was still alive. (Luke 16:26)
- B. Lazarus chose paradise while he was still alive.
- C. Whatever we choose in this life cannot be changed after physical death. (Hebr. 9:27)

VI. Our Earthly Chances will be gone forever.

- A. The rich man had five brothers that he wanted warned of their impending condemnation. (Luke 16:27)
- B. The rich man's brothers are still with us today.
 - 1. They are my friends and your friends...
 - 2. They are our co-workers...
 - 3. They are our relatives...
 - 4. They are our acquaintances.
- C. We must tell the world about Jesus NOW. (Rom. 10:14)
 - 1. It is up to us to communicate...
 - 2. It is up to them to choose.
- D. Five minutes after we die our opportunities will be gone forever.
- E. Don't you wait until it's too late to share Christ with those with whom you come in contact.