

Destiny after Death Luke 16

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday Oct 2nd

Our Mortal lives can be represented by a small dot on an eternal timeline. Our afterlife is represented by a ray. What we do during the “dot” affects everything that happens on the “Ray.” (James 4:14; Pr. 90:12) Most tombstones represent our lives by a small dash. What we do with Jesus during our dash; determines our Destination after your dash is done. (Jn 3:18; 36)

Heb. 9:27 *“It is appointed unto men once to die, after this, the judgment!”*

Κρίσις (Kri’sis) Decision (for or against); tribunal; justice (divine law)

What we do For Jesus during our dash; determines our Destiny after our dash. (2 Cor 5:9-11)

In Luke 16 Jesus reveals many remarkable (and related) principles.

- Vs. 1-9: Story of the unfaithful steward. Vs 2 *“Give and account of thy stewardship.”*
- Vs 10-13: Makes an application to our lives. *“If you have not been faithful in unrighteous mammon who will commit to your trust the true riches?”*
- Vs 19-31: Jesus closes this chapter by pulling back the veil of eternity to reveal what happens at death, when the “dash” ends.

Through this account, Jesus reveals:

1. Death is Inevitable! Vs 22 *“the beggar died, ... the rich man also died”*

It’s the great equalizer! Eccl. 2:16; 8:8 *“There is no man that hath power ... to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: there is no discharge in that war!”*

2. Death is Transitional!

It’s not the conclusion, but the Introduction into Eternity.

Vs. 22,23 *“Lazarus was carried to Abraham’s bosom... The Rich man died also, and in Hell”*

There’s no hint of “soul sleep” here. The instant after death, both were ushered into eternity!

Eccl 12:7 *“Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.”*

3. Death is “Destinational”

There are ultimately only two destinations after death. Vs. 22,23

A. Paradise (aka: Abraham’s Bosom) *“Lazarus was carried ... to Abraham’s bosom.”*

1) Before Jesus’ death and ascension, those who died in faith went to paradise. Lk 23:43

“Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.” Παράδεισος: An Eden, a park (See Rev. 2:7)

2) Since Abraham is called *“the father of faith”* (Ro. 4:11,12, 16) , it’s “nicknamed” after Him.

3) After Jesus’ ascension, he led these in paradise to Heaven. Eph. 4:8-10

“When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive...Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? (Abraham’s bosom) He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might (ful)fill all things.”

4) Now believers go directly to heaven at death. John 15:1,2; 2 Cor 5:1,8-10

“we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle (body) were dissolved, (died) we have an house (new body)... eternal in the heavens... 8 We are confident, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. 9 Wherefore we labor, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.” (Mt. 25:21)

5) Our final reward will be evaluated at the “Bema” seat at the end of the age. 1 Cor 3:10-15; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 14:12,13 *“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. And I heard a voice from heaven saying, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord...: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.”*

Conclusion: Paradise (Heaven) is a place of:

- **Comfort.** Vs 25 *“now he is comforted” (See 1 Thes. 4:18)*
- **Clarity.** 1 Cor. 13:12 *“Now we see through glass, darkly, but then face to face.”*
- **Companionship.** *“Abraham’s bosom”* 1 Cor. 13:12 *“know, even as I am known”*
Heb. 12:22-23 *“ye are come unto ... the city of the living God... and to an innumerable company of angels, To the ... church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant.”*

What will you say to Him?

What will He say to You? Mt. 25:14-30

Application:

There are only two destinations after death.

- 1) Paradise (Now Heaven) Lk 16:22 *“Lazarus was carried by angels into (paradise)”*
- 2) Hell: (hades) *“The rich man also died, and in hell he lift up his eyes being in torment.”*

Heb. 9:27 *“It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:”*

What will your destiny be after your Death? Why?

John 3:16-18, 36 *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth (πιστεύω {pisteuō} to entrust, credit, put confidence in) in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

17 *For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.*

18 *He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*



36 *“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”*

Which part of these verses best describe you?

Lost and Found by Greg Olsen