

RICH MAN & LAZARUS

Scripture Reading: James 4:13-17

08/04/19

Introduction:

1. Some have a 5-year plan; 10-year plan; 20-year plan.
2. Christians should have one-hundred-year plan!

I. TWO THINGS NOT TAUGHT:

A. WEALTH IS A SIN

1. Many of God's people were wealthy
 - a. Solomon -1Ki 10:7, 23
 - b. Abram -Ge 13:2
2. Not money, but the "love of money" is the root of all evil -1Ti 6:10

B. POVERTY IS A VIRTUE

1. Poverty resulting from laziness is sinful -Pr 6:6-11
2. There is spiritual danger in being too rich or poor -Pr 30:7-9

II. WHAT DEATH CANNOT TAKE AWAY

A. THE CONSCIENCE

1. There is no pleasure or pain without it
2. Hell is a place of torment; outer darkness; weeping and gnashing of teeth -Mt 25:30
3. No annihilation -Mt 25:46
4. God is not the God of the dead, but of the living -Mt 22:23-33

B. THE IDENTITY

1. All the characters knew each other
2. The rich man and Lazarus switched roles, but not personalities.

C. THE MEMORY

1. The rich man remembered his five brothers and the life he lived on earth
2. He now regretted the life he lived

III. THE CONDEMNATION OF THE RICH MAN

A. HE COMMITTED THE SIN OF OMISSION

1. Sin is usually thought of as an action against God or man.
2. The absence of evil is not necessarily good.

B. HE WAS NOT MERCIFUL TO HIM

1. "...he who has mercy on the poor happy is he." -Pr 14:21
2. "A good man deals graciously and lends; He will guide his affairs with discretion." -Ps 112:5

C. HE DID NOT HAVE THE PROPER ATTITUDE OF GIVING

1. Proper attitude in giving -De 15:10; 1Co 13:3
2. What we do for others, we do as unto Christ -Mt 25:35-46

Conclusion:

1. We are laying up treasures in heaven -Mt 6:19-21
2. The needs of others may not be financial, but emotional, and spiritual.
3. Let us always seek to help others.