

MasterClass #10

Endgame: When the Big One Hits*Word***Scripture Reference**

Luke 16:19-31

Discussion Questions

1. What makes death scary to you?
2. People are usually worried about and scared of “the big one”—death. The uncertainty of how you will die is a cause of endless worry to many. However, the more important questions that need to be settled in your hearts are, “What will happen to me after I die?” and “How will I pass the judgment of God to enter in heaven?” You will never get over your fear of death until you have settled in your heart what will happen after you die. This is such an important lesson that Jesus wants you to understand, and He taught it through a parable. Read Luke 16:19-31. From this passage we learn three specific things about eternity—specifically about hell, which hopefully will prepare you for the questions you need to ask in your life. What does the story tell you about the Rich Man and Lazarus (v. 19-22)? How did the Rich Man treat poor Lazarus? Where did the angels take Lazarus? Where was the Rich Man taken?
3. This parable is not teaching us that all poor people go to heaven and rich men go to hell. The eternal destiny of each individual is already set during his life on earth based on his trust in God and His Word. This story shifted from their life on earth to afterlife. There are three truths about hell that should prepare you for the big one (death) coming your way:
 - a. **Hell is a place where mercy is not extended (v. 23-25).** Jesus used parables to let us understand one main point of the story. Jesus was not teaching that people in hell can see

what’s going on in heaven, or that people in heaven can see what’s in hell. The point Jesus was making is that in hell, you are getting what you deserve. Describe what the Rich Man saw from where he was in hell. What did he appeal towards Abraham to ask Lazarus to do? What was Abraham’s response? Have you ever wondered if God would show grace and mercy to those who are in hell who regret what they did during their life on earth? Discuss what it means that “there is no mercy extended to people in hell because they are getting what they deserve.” Why can good works not erase bad works? On what basis can your sins be forgiven and spare you from hell?

- b. **Hell is a place without a second chance (v. 26).** You cannot enter heaven once you enter hell; and once you are in heaven, you cannot enter hell. What was the reason Abraham gave on why you cannot change your eternal destiny once you get there (v. 26)? There is no one to blame for the decision you make but yourself. How does the fact that there are no second chances once you’re dead affect the decision you make today regarding your eternal future? Why does success keep people from accepting Christ as their Savior? If Christians accept the certainty of hell as true, what do you think is keeping them from sharing their faith with others?
- c. **Hell is a place where people willfully reject God’s gift of salvation (v. 27-31).** The Rich Man further appealed to Abraham to send Lazarus to his father’s house because he still has five brothers to warn so that they will not also go to hell. What was Abraham’s response? Would people with hardened hearts to the gospel listen to someone who rose from the dead? Why or why not? Hell is not a place for bad people, but a place for those who willfully reject God’s gift of salvation. Does it mean that there are good people in hell? Discuss.

Walk

[SPOILER ALERT!] The “endgame” of this life is that everyone dies! Death is something we cannot avoid no matter what. It doesn’t really matter how your life will end, whether by accident, sickness, in your sleep, etc.; what is important is the decision you make regarding the life after this because it is the only way to dispel your fear regarding death and the afterlife. If you are not sure where you are going after you die (whether in heaven or hell), would you believe in the Lord Jesus as your Savior who saved you from the eternal consequence of your sin and gave you eternal life? If you have done this already, how has this story changed your attitude toward sharing the gospel to unbelievers?

Worship & Prayer

Heavenly Father, I understand that there are only two places a person can go after his life on earth has ended, and that is in heaven or hell. Thank You that You love us so much that You desire everyone of us not to suffer and be tormented in hell, but to enjoy the great eternal life with You through Jesus Christ. May the reality of heaven and hell compel me to be bold to share about Your free gift of salvation with others. Thank You that I don't have a reason to be afraid of death because having You in my life gives me an assurance of secured eternity. In Jesus' name. Amen.