

## FINAL STUDY NOTES - *LUKE Chapter 16* 4/21-22/2025

### CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

Phil Twente: [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) cell 714 425 9221 [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) - Previous Audio & notes  
NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

**MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada)**  
**THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!**

**MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484**

Join Zoom Meeting -

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>**

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One tap mobile: +16699006833,,87858644763# US (San Jose) +13462487799,,87858644763# US (Houston)  
Dial by your location: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York). Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbUX7eWEpN>

**TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada).**

- TUES MORNING MTG PLACE:
- 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions from your starting point, suggest using *WAZE* ([waze.com/live-map](http://waze.com/live-map)) or *MapQuest* ([mapquest.com](http://mapquest.com)),
- AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

**MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340**

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### OPENING PRAYER

***LUKE – Chapter 16 - The Issue of Stewardship! The Parable of the Unjust Steward - (vs. 1-13); The Law, the Prophets, and the Kingdom – (vs. 14-18); The Rich Man and Lazarus – (vs. 19-31).***

**The Parable of the Dishonest Manager** – Commended for dealing shrewdly in preparing for his future! Using “now” to prepare for “then!”

***Luk 16:1 He also said to His disciples: "There was a certain rich man who had a steward (general manager of the rich man's business), and an accusation was brought to him that this man was wasting his goods.***

- **This is teaching for those who have already committed their lives to following Him.** Teaching them what their proper attitude should be towards the material riches of this world. As we observe the story, the steward is a real rascal and the accusation is that of embezzlement.
- **We need to remember that parables are given to clarify not to confuse.** This is a teaching. It is not a riddle, something we have to figure out. It is given to make thing more clear, not to confuse or

mislead. The steward's boss or master (not our Lord!), commended the steward for his wisdom, not his wickedness, for dealing shrewdly in preparing for his future! Think of using his present circumstances to prepare for his future!"

**Luk 16:2** *So he called him and said to him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward.'*

- **Basically, you are fired.** So, give an accounting of your stewardship.

**Luk 16:3** *"Then the steward said within himself, 'What shall I do? For my master is taking the stewardship away from me. I cannot dig; I am ashamed to beg.*

- **He found himself in a dilemma, being fired** from his job because of dishonesty. He did not know what to do. But he struck upon an idea. I will be even more dishonest now and prepare for my future.

**Luk 16:4-7** *I have resolved what to do, that when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.' [5] "So he called every one of his master's debtors to him, and said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' [6] And he said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' So he said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' (Estimated to be a 1,000 denarii, three years' wages.) [7] Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' So he said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' And he said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' (Estimated to be a 2,500 denarii, seven years' wages.)*

- **So, he called in all of the debtors and he cut their bills.** Twenty percent to fifty percent. The idea being that when he was out of a job next week, he could go to them and they would owe him a favor. If he asks them for some help, they would be obligated to give it because after all, he had just helped them tremendously cutting their bills in half. It was an extremely wicked thing to do, totally dishonest.

**Luk 16:8** *So the master (note this is not our Lord, but the steward's master!) **commended the unjust steward because he had dealt shrewdly.** For the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light.*

- **The master must have been sort of a rascal himself.** He saw shrewdness in this fellow. I cannot believe how shrewd he is. He has done wisely. He has not done it honestly. But he has taken his present position and used it to set himself up for the future. Now that is wise. To take advantage of your present situation to set yourself up for the future. Not by dishonesty but the concept of using the present position, the present advantage to seek to advantage yourself in the future is wise.
- **For the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light.** The people of this world know. They are shrewd. They know how to take advantage of situations to set themselves up.

**Luk 16:9** *"And I (Jesus) **say to you, make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon** (filthy lucre – KJV), **that when you fail, they may receive you into an everlasting home.***

- **We all know that we are going to die and that our time on this earth is limited.** One of these days we are going to leave this earth and enter into the eternal realm, the spiritual realm. What are you doing to prepare for the future? Are you taking advantage of the opportunities that you have now to set yourself up for eternity? That is basically what Jesus is saying to His disciples. Make use of this unrighteous mammon that you have. That when you fail, when you die, you will be received into the everlasting habitation.
- **Money is probably the closest thing to omnipotence what we possess.** Money is power. In fact, we say that mammon is the god of money. But in reality, he was the god of power but because money represents power, there is that of identifying of mammon with money. But he was worshipped by the people as the god of power.
- **It is also one of the closest things that we have to impotence because money can make you a slave.** It can get to the place where you cannot spend it. You try to hold on to everything and you no longer enjoy it. It is just gaining more is the obsession of your life.
- **Jesus is telling us to use our money for things that will last for eternity!** You can use your money to buy things that wear out. They lose their luster, becoming old, rusty, and decayed. Or you can use your money to gain eternal benefits. Jesus said, (**Mat 6:19-20**) *"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; [20] but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.*

- **How do we lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven? By the investing in things that are eternal.** Paul wrote to the church at Philippi, having sent him an offering. Thanking them for the offering, he said, (*Php 4:17*) *Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.* Paul was declaring to them that the fruit of his ministry was abounding to their account because of their support of his ministry. That is why so often when I see a young man that really has potential, doing a work for God, I like to support them. Selfishly I want fruit to abound in my account. It has been a blessing to be able to give to those ministries that are really being used of God.
- **Jesus is saying that you have the opportunity now to invest in things that are eternal.** That opportunity is not always going to be here. The moment you die, you will lose total control over your riches. Then your riches will be controlled by others. This is the thing that really troubled Solomon. But it happens. You cannot avoid it.
- **Jesus is saying take advantage of your current circumstances.** Now the people of the world know enough. They have enough wisdom to take advantage of the present position that they have to set themselves up for the future. Therefore, you ought also to take advantage of the present opportunity to invest in things that are eternal. Jesus said that one is to use wealth, not store it up or be a servant of it!
- ***How much of the wealth that He has blessed me with, has been invested in eternal currency? Have I moved funds from earning earthly dollars to that of earning heavenly currency?***

***Luk 16:10 He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much.***

- **Having money is not the real riches. The real riches are spiritual riches,** which are in heaven. They are eternal. Investing in things that are eternal is not dumb, it is wise. Because you are going to spend most of your time in eternity. The time you spend here on earth is just a drop, not even a drop, in a bucket. Not even a drop in an ocean. Yet there are people who are taking no thought of eternity, laying up nothing for eternity, squandering everything on themselves!
- **Jesus is encouraging His disciples to invest in those things that are eternal.** In chapter eighteen, we will see the rich young ruler, coming to Jesus, asking Him what he had to do to gain eternal life. Jesus said, You know the commandments and you are to keep them. The young man said, I have done all of these from the time I was a child. But what do I lack yet? In (*Luk 18:22-23*) *So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me. " [23] But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.*
- **There are always people who are in need of funds.** Many churches have a benevolent fund to help people who are in dire emergencies. One of the questions that are on the application form usually is, Do you tithe? Will we find a record of your tithing? Almost never! It is extremely rare for someone who has asks for help to have a tithing record.
- **In (*Mal 3:8,10*) "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. [10] Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it. There is only one place where God said to test Him and that is in giving.**
- **In (*Hab 1:6,9*) For indeed I am raising up the Chaldeans, A bitter and hasty nation Which marches through the breadth of the earth, To possess dwelling places that are not theirs. [9] "They all come for violence; Their faces are set like the east wind. They gather captives like sand. In other words, they were putting their investments in the things that were going to perish, rather the things that were eternal. Thus, many of them found themselves destitute.**
- **God will not be a debtor to you.** If you give to God, as Jesus said, (*Luk 18:29,30*) *So He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or parents or brothers or wife or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, [30] who shall not receive many times more in this present time, and in the age to come eternal life."* The whole idea is using the advantage of what we have now to lay up for ourselves eternal treasure. "*He who is faithful in the least is faithful in much.*

***Luk 16:11 Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?***

- **Faithful in the little things; ruler over big things.** In the parable of the Lord who gave his one servant five talents, to another four, and another one, how the one that was given five, came back and

said, Lord, I used your five and I have gained another five. Here is ten. And the Lord said, Well done, good and faithful servant. Because you have been faithful in the little things, I will now make you ruler over big things. Enter into the joy of the Lord.

- **But the one who received the one talent said, Lord,** I know that you are really shrewd, tough, and austere. You want your money's worth and therefore, I hid your money and buried it. Your talent is intact. Jesus said, You have judged yourself. You know that I want dividends for my investment. You should have put it in the bank where interest could have been earned. He said, Take his talent and give it to him that has the ten. For those who are faithful, more will be given.
- **Jesus is saying pretty much the same thing here.** If He cannot trust you with the little things, how can He ever trust you with the eternal things? If you are not faithful in the use of your money now, then how is He or why should He invest in you the true riches?
- **As He looks at my life right now, how much evidence is there in this regard, of my being faithful in the use of my money? Is it fruitful for Him to give me investment opportunities? Or will He give them to others?**

**Luk 16:12** And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own?

- What you have has been entrusted to you by God. What do you have but what have you received?

**Luk 16:13** "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

- **You cannot serve God and mammon.** You cannot serve them both. You are going to hate the one and love the other. You are going to be drawn to the one and turn away from the other or vice versa. It is a serious thing.

**The Law, the Prophets, and the Kingdom of God**

**Luk 16:14** Now the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, also heard all these things, and they derided Him.

- **The Pharisees turned up their noses.** They did not like what He was saying. They *derided Him* because they loved money.

**Luk 16:15** And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

- **The Pharisees were the ones who were outwardly religious.** They had the outward garments of religion. Outwardly, they looked very pious. Very sanctimonious. But Jesus said, "God knows your heart." In another place, Jesus said (**Mat 23:27**) *"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness."* Jesus is saying, God knows what is going on in your heart. You justify yourselves before men, you want to look good before men. But God knows what is going on in your heart.
- **They really looked up to the rich and they felt that riches were a sign** of righteousness. God's grace upon their life. Jesus said, *"For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God."* God sees your heart. Men may esteem you highly but you are an abomination to God.

**Luk 16:16** "The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it."

- **Until the coming of John the Baptist they were under this covenant with God** to keep His law and if they would keep His law, He would be their God and they would be His people. And the law was in force up until John the Baptist.
- **But since that time, the kingdom, or kingship, of God has been preached,** the submitting of your life to God as King, *and every man is pressing into it.*

**Luk 16:17** And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one tittle of the law to fail.

- **One tittle.** The little commas, or marks that would distinguish the vowel. It is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than the law to fail.

## ***Divorce and Remarriage***

***Luk 16:18 "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced from her husband commits adultery.***

- Then Jesus took one of the laws and He showed them how they were outwardly looking so righteous and holy as though they were perfect. But He began to show them how they had so misinterpreted and abused this one particular law, concerning divorce.
- In (Deu 24:1) "*When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some uncleanness in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce, puts it in her hand, and sends her out of his house.* If a man married a woman and found some uncleanness in her, he should give to her a writing of divorcement that she might be freed from him.
- What they were saying is that you could put away our wife and their interpretation of uncleanness was very liberal. Jesus is talking to them, Look, outwardly you are appearing righteous before men. You are putting on all the robes and everything else but inwardly, God sees your heart and you may be esteemed by men but you are an abomination to God! You say you are living by the law but here is an issue. Your interpretation of this particular law of divorce is wrong!
- An exception. (Mat 19:3, 9) *The Pharisees also came testing Him, and saying to Him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?" [9] And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her, who is divorced commits adultery."*

***The Rich Man and Lazarus*** - Most of what we think we know about the afterlife comes from this chapter!

***Luk 16:19 "There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day.***

- We need to note that there is only one person that has returned from the grave and He has the floor! Jesus is presenting us information that we cannot get anywhere else. This is one of the few reliable passages on this subject. There a lot of people have written books on after death experiences. Be careful. Anything more or different than what Jesus has told us, do not agree! They are worthless!
- Now He gives a parable and it is probably addressed to everyone at this point. Again, the parable concerns a certain rich man. There is a question as to whether or not this is a parable because there is an unusual aspect to this story and that is that a man is named. In none of the parables were there ever names attached to the individuals. The fact that one of the men is named has led to the conclusion that this is an actual story that Jesus is talking about, an actual situation, not a parable.
- But if it is a parable, parables are stories to illustrate divine truths. So that if it is a parable, there is divine truth that is being taught in it. Either way, whether it be a story or a parable, makes no difference. What we need to discover is the truth that is being illustrated and taught in the story. You have the picture here of a man like these decadent Roman emperors that are just fat and lounging in gourmets, just the picture of disguising opulence. In contrast;

***Luk 16:20 But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate,***

- You have to go over to the Middle East to understand this. There are people today, for example, at the Damascus and the Saint Stephen's gates, you will often see people sitting there seeking alms and they all have their pant legs way up, exposing these swollen, bloody, open sores all over their legs. They are ugly to look at!
- On one side of the picture is this opulence and decadence, on the other side, you have this poor beggar covered with sores.

***Luk 16:21 desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.***

- There was no silverware in those days. They ate with their hands. When the wealthy people were through with the meal they would take bread and wipe the grease and all off of their hands with the bread and then they would toss the bread to the poor people around. The beggar was just waiting there to catch a piece of bread from the rich man's table.

- *The dogs came and licked his sores. We note that this is the only source of comfort given to Lazarus. The dogs were more kindly disposed to this man than the rich man, who probably was not even aware of him, or had paid any attention to him!*

***Luk 16:22 So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried.***

- **Notice there is no mention of the beggar being buried.** When the poor people died, they would quite often just take them down to the valley of Hinnom and throw them in the fires that were constantly burning down there, cremating them. He was probably just picked up by the street sweepers and carried down to the valley of Hinnom and thrown in the fires. But when he died, he “was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom.” Notice that **death was not the end!** *The rich man also died, and was buried*, probably at great expense.
- **Consider what the Pharisees must have thought about this!** They must have really been shocked! Their religious tradition was that wealthy people pleased God; therefore, they were rich. They thought the poor people were poor because of unseen sin in their lives. Here they see the exact opposite!

***Luk 16:23-24 And being in torments in Hades (Sheol in the Old Testament), he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. [24] 'Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.'***

- **Notice the rich man in Hades has a tremendous amount of awareness. He is conscious and aware** of what is going on over there in Abraham's bosom, which is used to describe a place of paradise for Old Testament believers at the time of death. Theologians believe Abraham's bosom was evacuated after the cross and the resurrection. (*Eph 4:8-9*) *Therefore He says: "WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVITY CAPTIVE AND GAVE GIFTS TO MEN."* [9] (Now this, "HE ASCENDED"—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? Christ was the first fruits of them that slept first (*1Co 15:20*) But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
- **For the Christian, death means to be present with the Lord!** In the Old Testament sense, Lazarus was in Abraham's bosom. For the Christian, when you die, as Jesus told the thief that was saved, “This day you will be with Me in Paradise.” For the unbeliever, death means to be separated from God's presence. And we have no grasp of what that means. We know that it is a place of eternal torment as Jesus said in (*Mar 9:43,44,46,48*) *If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched* [44,46,48] where *'THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE AND THE FIRE IS NOT QUENCHED.'*
- **Physical death is the separation of the soul and the body.** The body goes in the grave. The soul goes to Sheol, in the Hebrew. Hades in the Greek. Separation of the soul and the body is physical death. The second death is separation of soul and spirit. A soul separated from God is something we cannot conceive of.
- **The Old Testament word for hell is Sheol, the New Testament word is Hades.** There is another Greek word, also is translated hell, which is *Gehenna*. And then there is another word, *abusso*, which means a pit. It is called in interpretation the bottomless pit.
- **In Acts chapter 2, on the Day of Pentecost, Peter was preaching to them of the death of Jesus and of His resurrection, saying it was impossible that He could be held by death because God have promised in (*Psa 16:10*) For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.** Peter bore witness that God did not leave the soul of Jesus in hell. But this same Jesus was raised from the dead!
- **Peter tells us in (*1Pe 3:19,20*) by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, [20] who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.**
- **In the prophecy concerning Jesus in (*Isa 61:1*) 'The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives....opening of the prison to those who are bound;**
- **Abraham, the father of those who believed. He believed in Jesus. It said (*Heb 11:13*) These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.** They were searching for a city, the eternal city of God which has foundation whose maker and builder is God. He

said, these all died in faith, not having received the promise. God reserving some better thing for us that they apart from us could not come into the perfected state.

- **It appears that Abraham, the father of those who believed was in one portion of Hades, encouraging and comforting those who entered into the grave, into Hades and no doubt saying, God is faithful. I waited a long time for Isaac but God kept His word. God is faithful! He is going to get us out of here. Comforting those. But the other side, the other portion was a place of torment.**

***Luk 16:25 But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented.***

- **The rich man did remember. He could remember his life on earth.** The Bible teaches that the real you is not the body. The real you is spirit. The body is an instrument through which your spirit expresses itself. The Bible calls this body a tent, it is a place where you live. (2Co 5:1) *For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.* Jesus said in (Joh 14:2) *In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*
- **This rich man's body was lying in some ornate, elegant tomb.** But his soul was in hell! The consciousness was still there. He lifted up his eyes, seeing Abraham, with Lazarus there in his bosom. He cried for relief in the torment, in the heat. "*Son, remember!*"

***Luk 16:26 And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.***

- **In other words, hell was divided into these two compartments** and there could be no crossing over between the two. There is no repentance after death. There is no change that can take place after death. (Ecc 11:3b) *In the place where the tree falls, there it shall lie.* You cannot change once you have passed into the other world.

***Luk 16:27-28 "Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him (Lazarus) to my father's house, [28] for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.***

- **He could remember his family, his brothers** that were still alive, who were probably living their lives like he was. Let Lazarus go back and warn them so that they will not come to this place of torment!

***Luk 16:29 Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.***

- **Peter tells us in (2Pe 1:3) as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue.** You do not need more than what God has already given you.
- **Here this fellow is arguing, Let him go back,** let him go back and warn my brothers. Abraham said, *They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them!*

***Luk 16:30 And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.***

- **Jesus is talking to the Pharisees here** about a story, which happened a little later, of a man, also, by the name of Lazarus who was dying. He was a friend of Jesus and his sisters, whom Jesus also loved sent a message to Jesus who was down at the Jordan river, saying, Come quickly, the one you love is dying. Jesus hung around the Jordan river for a couple of days before He began the two-day journey to Bethany where His friend Lazarus lived. By the time He arrived at Bethany, His friend had already died and had been buried for four days by the time Jesus arrived.
- **The sisters were in the house and the friends were gathering** and they were weeping and mourning over the loss of their brother. Someone said Jesus is coming up the road with His disciples. Martha went running out, met Jesus and said, Lord, if You only had been here, my brother would not have died. In (Joh 11:25-26) *Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. [26] And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"*
- **That statement immediately divides people into two categories.** Those who believe and those who do not! Martha, do you believe? She said, Yes, Lord. I believe. But the question is to you, **Do you believe that?** It divides people into two categories, those who believe that and those who do not.
- **When Jesus came to the house, Mary said the same thing.** Oh, Lord, You are too late. If You had only been here, our brother would not have died. Jesus said, Take Me to where you have buried him.

They led Jesus out to the cave where Lazarus was buried, and Jesus said, to roll the stone away from the cave. Martha said, Lord, it has been four days. He stinks pretty badly by now! As they rolled the stone away, Jesus in *(Joh 11:43b)* He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" Lazarus came hopping out, still in his grave clothes! *(Joh 11:44b)* "Loose him, and let him go."

- **When the Pharisees whom Jesus is talking to here, heard of Lazarus being raised from the dead, what did they say? Let us kill him! Here is the argument, Lord, if someone would just come back from the dead and testify, then they would believe!**

***Luk 16:31 But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'*** "

- So, it was. When Lazarus was raised from the dead, the Pharisees plotted to kill him too. It did not make believers out of them. It made murderers out of them. Because they did not want to believe. Because it required a change of lifestyle which they did not want.
- **We have some real heavy teaching here** in the sixteenth chapter of the gospel of Luke. Teaching that should cause each of us to look inwardly and say,
  - ✓ **What am I doing** with what God has entrusted into my care?
  - ✓ **Am I using it wisely?**
  - ✓ **Am I using it for the kingdom of God** or for the kingdom of myself?
- **One day, an accounting will be given.** You cannot escape it! His investment program is foolproof. Anything you send ahead is going to pay you a hundredfold.
- *(Rev 22:11a)* **He that is unjust, let him be unjust still** - The time of fulfillment will come so suddenly that there will be but little space for repentance and amendment. What is done must be done instantly! If you cannot be convinced of the truth of the Word by the revelation of Jesus Christ and the fulfilling of Bible prophecy, what could possibly convince you?
- **There has never been a more important time to pray asking the Lord. What do you want me to do with this? What do you want me to do with my time? With my talents? With my substance? What kind of a steward am I?**

## SUMMARY

- **How much of the wealth that He has blessed me with, has been invested in eternal currency? Have I moved funds from earning earthly dollars to that of earning heavenly currency? (Luke 16:9)**
- **As He looks at my life right now, how much evidence is there in this regard, of my being faithful in the use of my money? Is it fruitful for Him to give me investment opportunities? Or will He give them to others? (Luke 16:11)**
- **There has never been a more important time to pray asking the Lord. What do you want me to do with this? What do you want me to do with my time? With my talents? With my substance? What kind of a steward am I? (Luke 16:31)**

**CLOSING SONG** - Remembering His Unparalleled gift of His death and resurrection! *(Mat 28:6)*  
*He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.*

**CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY** – C. Wesley/L. Davidica – Hymns Triumphant Performers (3:11/3:15)

*1 Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!  
 Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!  
 2 Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
 Dying once He all doth save, Alleluia! Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!  
 3 Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
 Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened Paradise, Alleluia!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

**CLOSING PRAYER** - NEXT WEEK: Read and study *Luke Chapter 17!*