

THINGS IN HELL THAT SHOULD BE IN EVERY BAPTIST CHURCH LUKE 16

Text:

Introduction:

In our text there are two characters that die. One wakes to everlasting comfort and the other opens his eyes in eternal torment. Yet, even in his agony he is able to demonstrate things for us to heed and follow.

I want you to realize that the text is not just another story. I don't believe it is a parable. The parables that Christ used had no named characters. This account is the real story of a man who went to hell.

Let's look at this very serious story tonight and see and hear the truths echoed by the damned from the flames.

1. TEARS (VS 24)

A. We don't shed many tears any more.

Someone once said, "More tears are shed in theaters over fancied tragedies than in our churches over real ones.

Illustration:

John Vassar soul winning the Irish woman who slammed the door in his face, sat down weeping and sang,

But drop of grief can ne're repay
The debt of love I owe
Dear Lord I give myself away
Tis all that I can do.

B. Tears wash our eyes so that we might see clearly.

1. We must see clearly, in order to see the lost around us.

C. Tears will bring about the Salvation of the Lost

Psalms 126:5-6

⁵They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. ⁶He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves *with him*.

2. PRAYER (VS 27) "THEN HE SAID, I PRAY"

A. Prayer is to the churches existence and continuance.

B. Our is that we take "Just a little talk with Jesus" serious.

1. Read "Never found time.

Illustration: John Rice and his old car.

C. God desires to answer our prayers

1. Read "Into the day"

3. CONCERN FOR THE LOST (VS. 28)

"For I have five brethern; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment."

A. Didn't ask for a life style evangelist!

1. Didn't ask for him to go live a good life in front of his brothers, but to go and witness to them.

B. We need to be concerned about the lost that are around us.

Illustration:

George Witfield said, "O, Lord give me souls, or take my soul!"

C. We need a broken heart for lost souls!

Illustration:

John Hunt, a missionary to the Fiji Islands, prayed on his death bed, "Lord, save Fiji, save Faji, save these people, O Lord have mercy on Fiji, save Fiji."

D. The Church that is successful in the community and the world must have the following things:

1. Capture the reality of Hell
2. Realize that their life is not theirs to live but God's to control.
3. Place their heart within the framework of the Church that Jesus loved and died for.

Close:

When was the last time you wept over your sinfulness, or grieved over the lost loved ones in your family?

Christian, there are people in Hell tonight crying and praying for you to go to their lost loved ones and tell them. Where are your tears? Where are your prayers? Where is your heart? Where is your concern?