

Luke Chapter 16

- In Luke 14 Jesus went into the house of a Pharisee to have a Sabbath meal, he taught and challenged the Pharisee and his guests.
- Then he went out and began to teach the multitudes that were outside with the parable of the prodigal sons.
- Here he continues in the same day to instruct His disciples on finances, material goods, and their proper use. Parable?

1 Timothy 6:10 “For the love of money is the root of all evil, which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

- This is a full Sabbath day of teaching, this particular instruction is for those who have committed their ways to Jesus. It starts off “**He also said to His disciples...**”

V: 1-2 The rich man and the un-just steward. We know what a rich man is. Or do we?

- We may just automatically think, well it's someone with a lot of money, or a big house, lots of stuff - in the world's eye, that would probably fit.
- But what would a rich man be in God's eye?

James 2:5 “Listen, my beloved brethren: has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?”

- The poorest believer who has made peace with God and is headed to heaven is way better off than the richest non-believer that will pass from this life apart from God.

Jeremiah 9:23-24 “²³Thus says the LORD: “let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty man glory in his might, nor let the rich man glory in his riches; ²⁴But let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,” says the LORD.”

- Steward: a servant who is given responsibility over another's mans goods, a manager who oversees' another's goods, property, and financial affairs using them in the best interest and to the profit of the owner.

1 Corinthians 4:2 “Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.”

- A steward does not own the wealth himself, but he has the privilege of enjoying it and using it for the profit of the owner. When he looks at the riches around him, the steward must remember that they belong to his master, not to him personally.
- This particular steward forgot that he was a steward and began to act as if he were the owner, he became a “prodigal steward” who wasted his master’s wealth.
- The owner has received a report, an “**accusation**” which comes from “the accuser” that the steward had wasted or misused the owner’s goods.
- We’re not told who the accuser is; but we know who the accuser is.

Revelation 12:9 “So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan...”

Revelation 12:10 “Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.” (The accuser is the Devil!)

- The un-just steward is then summoned to give an account of his stewardship because he’s about to lose his position.
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- Notice that there is a presumption of guilt, he has already been judged as guilty before his master.
 - Like this steward we too are already guilty before our master. We’re each born with a sin nature, born with the natural man’s fleshly inclination to sin - we too are guilty before our master.

Romans 3:10 “As it is written: there is none righteous, no, not one;”

Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

V: 3 The steward / servant doesn’t seek to defend himself, he knows there is no defense and he immediately realizes that he is guilty – he deserves to be punished.

Romans 7:18 “For I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, dwells no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.”

- In a sense he can’t change the past, but he could prepare for the future.

- He says to himself: I can't do hard labor... (work) I'd be ashamed to beg...(pride)
- No amount of labor or begging will get us into the kingdom of heaven.

Ephesians 2:4-5 “⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved.)

V: 4 The unjust steward begins to look beyond his present circumstances seeking to use his present circumstances to secure his future.

Proverbs 27:12 “A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; the simple pass on are are punished.”

- He's looking to secure a future home.

V: 5-7 To each of his master's debtors he presents a favorable deal. To the first he goes from 100 measure of oil, down to 50, that's a 50% discount. To the next he goes from 100 measures of wheat, down to 80, that's a 20% discount. A substantial savings for each of these debtors.

- This favorable discount was intended to cause each of the debtors to look upon the steward with favor, so that later when he's in need they will be more likely to help him out.
- Oil & wheat, the elements of the “meat offering.” (Thanksgiving, gratitude)

V: 8 The Lord commended the unjust steward because he had done wisely or shrewdly, not because he was honest, but for seizing the opportunity to secure his future. (How did He know? He is omniscient!)

Proverbs 15:3 “The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.”

Psalms 147:5 “Great is our Lord, and of great power: His understanding is infinite.”

- The master acknowledges that this steward is “unjust” while at the same time commending him for using his present circumstances to secure his future.
- He sacrificed present gain for future reward. In a sense he sent it ahead.
- The sons of this world are wiser in their generation, in this time as opposed to eternity, in worldly things; they do things and plan better, taking advantage of opportunities, utilizing worldly wisdom to secure their earthly future.

- They are wiser by comparison than the children of light who are supposed to be doing all the same things for heavenly purposes, laying up treasures in heaven.
- Too many sons of light, believers, are busy laying up treasure here on earth all to no profit in heaven.

1 John 2:15-17 “¹⁵Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. ¹⁷And the world is passing away, and the lust thereof: but he that does the will of God abides for ever.”

V: 9 We should make friends for ourselves by means of unrighteous mammon.

- We should use our money and other material things in such a way as to win souls for Christ, friendships that will endure throughout eternity.

Matthew 6:19-20 “¹⁹Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.”

- There is only one place in the Bible where God says to prove Him, and it's in the area of giving:

Malachi 3:8, 10 “⁸Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, in what way have we robbed You? In tithes and offerings.” - “¹⁰Bring 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.”

Haggai 1:6, 9 “⁶You have sown much, and bring in little; you eat, but do not have enough; you drink, but you are not filled with drink; you clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; and he who earns wages, earns wages to put into a bag with holes.” - “⁹You looked for much, but indeed it came to little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? Says the LORD of hosts. Because of My house that is in ruins, while everyone of you runs to his own house.”

- Haggai spoke about the people, he says that they have holes in their pockets, they can't seem to hang onto their money – why is that? Because they've neglected the house of God, they've fixed up their own house, taken care of themselves, but neglected the things of God, leaving His house desolate.
- They were investing in worldly things, temporal things as opposed to eternal things, and they found themselves destitute.

- Tithing pre-dates the Law, Abraham gave Melchizedek a tithe / 10th long before the Law.
- In all of this, God will not be a debtor to us:

Mark 10:28-30 “²⁸Then Peter began to say to Him, see, we have left all, and have followed You. ²⁹And so Jesus answered and said, assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel’s, ³⁰who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time - houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions - and in the age to come, eternal life.”

V: 10-12 He that is faithful in that which is least, earthly things, money, is also faithful in many or greater things, the things of the Spirit.

Matthew 25:14-30 (Turn to / read) Parable of the talents, 5,2,1 – 10,4,0

Matthew 25:21 “His lord said to him, well done, good and faithful servant: you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.”

- Same story with the 5 & 2 talents.
- 1 Talent: hard man, reaping where you had not sown – so I hid it.
- Jesus said basically “you’ve judged yourself”
- Wicked and lazy servant, interest.

Matthew 25:28-29 “²⁸Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.”

- Those that are unjust in the little things, earthly things, are also unjust in the greater the spiritual things.
- If we’re not faithful in the smaller things, why should He entrust us with greater things?

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

- Tithing is not just a financial issue - it is a spiritual litmus of our faith and commitment.

Matthew 6:21 “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

- Either God is Lord in my life, or money is. Nothing else demonstrates this in quite the same way.

V: 13 We can't have two Gods, there can only be one master passion in our lives:

James 1:8 "A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways."

- If God is our Master, then money will be our servant, and we will use our resources in the will of God.
- If God is not our Master, we will become the servants of money, and money is a cruel master

James 4:4 "... know ye not that friendship of the world is enmity with God?"

- The issue is one of commitment:

Joshua 24:15 "And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

- Christian stewardship goes beyond giving God a tithe of our income and then using the remainder as we please.
- Giving God 10% of our income is just the beginning of our stewardship, we need to remember that God still controls the remaining 90% as well.
- We are called to be stewards of our time:

Ephesians 5:15-17 "¹⁵See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, ¹⁶redeeming the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

- As Christians we're called to be good stewards of the gifts and abilities that God has given us:

1 Peter 4:10 "As every man has received the gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

1. The thief says "what's yours is mine, I'll take it!
 2. The selfish man says "what's mine is mine, I'll keep it!
 3. The Christian must say "what's mine is a gift from God, I'll share it!
- God's people are stewards of the Gospel:

1 Thessalonians 2:4 “But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.”

- Lord please help us to pass that test!

V: 14 The Pharisees who were covetous; literally those “who were lovers of money” when they heard all these things they “derided” Jesus, they scorned and mocked him.

- Lover’s of money as opposed to lovers of righteousness, lover’s of money as opposed to lover’s of God.

Exodus 20:2-3 “²I am the LORD your God... ³You shall have no other gods before Me.”

Matthew 6:21 “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

- They discounted the Word of God, they rationalized their behavior, and continued blindly down the road to perdition.

1 Timothy 6:10 “For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

V: 15 They may be able to justify themselves before men, but not before God.

Jeremiah 17:10 “I the Lord search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.”

- Self justification is no different than self righteousness, it is the height of arrogance and pride, things that are abhorrent to God.

Isaiah 64:6 “But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; we all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”

Galatians 3:11 “But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for the just shall live by faith.”

1 Corinthians 1:29 “That no flesh should glory in His presence.”

- They had perfected the outward appearances; but had neglected the issues of the heart.

1 Timothy 3:5 “Having a form of Godliness but denying the power thereof...”

- One of the bigger take aways in this is:

“God knows your hearts...” And He know’s all of our hearts!

God knows, and we should learn:

Jeremiah 17:9 “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?”

- If there is anything good in us, in our hearts - its Jesus!
- I’ve heard this phrase used by people to attempt to justify their sin, that somehow because they think in their heart that they have good intentions God will somehow approve.

Proverbs 28:26 “He who trusts in his own heart is a fool...”

Proverbs 14:12 “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.”

- This demonstrates self-reliance as opposed to reliance on God.

“For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God.”

- What is highly esteemed among men? The approval of other men. Wealth...
- They greatly valued that which God despises: Mammon, filthy lucre, covetousness – our God is a jealous God, He doesn’t like competition.

Matthew 6:24 “No man 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.”

- Gold is something that men generally value greatly, \$ 4,364.30 / oz.

Revelation 21:21 says that the streets in Heaven are paved with pure gold, God looks at gold the way we look at asphalt!

V: 16 According to Jesus the OT ends with John the Baptist, as opposed to Malachi. With the NT there is a new dispensation, God is dealing with man in a different way – according to the dispensation of Grace.

John 1:17 “For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”

- OT is the NT concealed, the NT is the OT revealed.
- There is no conflict between the two, they compliment each other.

Matthew 5:17 “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.”

- The Pharisees are operating or at least they think they are operating in the Old system of the Law, not only have they failed to keep the law, but that dispensation has passed, Jesus is on a whole different page.
- The NT is the covenant of “blood” – the blood of Christ.

Matthew 26:28 “For this is My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.”

“^{16b}The kingdom of God is preached and everyone is pressing into it:”

- To press into something means to move with force and specific direction as opposed to drifting aimlessly or casually – the kingdom of God is to be pressed into purposefully – we don’t get to heaven by accident!

Philippians 3:12-14 “¹²Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. ¹³Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

V: 17 The Word of God will not fail, it is forever: The entire world would be destroyed before one comma, or period, before one small letter of God’s Word fails.

Joshua on his death bed declared:

Joshua 23:14 “And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and you know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spoke concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing has failed thereof.”

Isaiah 40:8 “The grass withers, the flower fades: but the Word of our God stands forever.”

1 Peter 1:23 “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which lives and abides for ever.”

V: 18 Squirrel! (context?) Jesus has just described that the Word of God will not fade away, or go away, that God’s Word, like Himself is un-changing – not matter how much culture, society, and tradition would seek to alter it.

- Jesus then takes one of the laws, in this case the Law on marriage, and shows them how they were observing it only in an outward sense, but changing it to suit their purposes, how they had misinterpreted and abused it.
- This chapter has a lot to say about our finances and how we use them, and this example from the Law about divorce goes hand in hand with that as so often divorce & financial issues seem to be connected.
- The root issue is how they viewed the Word of God either as authoritative or something more casual that could be set aside.
- What is the final authority? The view and interpretations of men, the traditions of men – or would the Word of God itself be that final authority?

Mark 7:6-9 “⁶... well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: “this people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me, ⁷and in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men. ⁸For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men - the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do.” ⁹He said to them, “All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition.”

- The Pharisees & Sadducees had made the issue of marriage, divorce, and re-marriage a complete sham. The Pharisees who were supposedly the conservatives with regard to God’s Word had compromised greatly in this area.
- Deuteronomy 24 was the main passage that they referred to on this, but their interpretation of this passage changed over time to accommodate their circumstances.

Deuteronomy 24:1-4 “¹When a man has taken 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, ²when she has departed from his house, and goes and becomes another man’s wife, ³if the latter husband detests her and writes her a certificate of divorce, puts it in her hand, and sends her out of his house, or if the latter husband dies who took her as his wife, ⁴then her former husband who divorced her must not take her back to be his wife after she has been defiled; for that is an abomination before the LORD, and you shall not bring sin on the land which the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance.”

- **Initially they** took **Deuteronomy 24:1-4** literally, could only divorce based on “uncleanness” which was interpreted narrowly as adultery, which in turn required a written certificate.
- **Eventually they** took “uncleanness” to also include poor cooking, appearance, or being displeasing in a wide variety of ways, including by comparison. If the

husband saw a “more virtuous” woman, his current wife could become unclean by comparison.

- No certificate was required, simply stating “I divorce you” 3 times was sufficient, then show her the door.
- Divorce then as now was done for many frivolous reasons.
- The most common reason listed for divorce today is “irreconcilable differences.”
- (Not to trivialize, but...) When my kids were little they often had “irreconcilable differences” – in other words they weren’t able to reconcile themselves.
- Let me tell you, Grace and I reconciled them, we reconciled them good.
- To this day they are still brothers and sisters.
- How were they reconciled, a “higher power” intervened & they submitted.
- As we submit ourselves to God, He will reconcile us to whoever we’re at odds with.
- The distinctions between the Jews and the cultures all around them, just like Christians and secular society today, at least based on the divorce rate, seems to have diminished greatly.
- According to Jesus, the only valid reason for divorce is Adultery.
- There is much more that can be said and discussed about this subject but we’ll save that for a later time.
- The common thread here boils down to the adherence to God’s Word, or not.
- This next illustration has many aspects to it, but the overall theme is still the same, it’s not a subject jump - what do we do with, how do we apply God’s Word. It is ignored or acted on?

V: 19 This does not appear to be a “parable” – but a real literal situation, because one of the persons involved is named, Lazarus.

- An un-named rich man who lived and fared sumptuously or lavishly, extravagantly every day. Un-named so we could fill our name in.

V: 20-21 Lazarus: “One whom God Helps” – laid at his gate, meaning he couldn’t walk, full of sores, pathetic, and hungry – desiring just to be fed with the crumbs that fell from the rich man’s table.

- Crumbs: People back then didn't use cloth napkins, they used bread to wipe the sauce or grease off of their hands, then they would toss it away or to the floor for the dogs to eat. (Cast off's, dumpster diving) (Russian oligarch's using \$100 bills to light their cigars)
- The rich man was oblivious to Lazarus' condition but the dogs weren't, they ministered to him, licking his sores, they were more aware and kind to Lazarus - than the rich man who paid no attention to him. Ignored him.
- There are sins of commission and there are sins of omission:

James 4:17 "Therefore to him that knows to do good, and doesn't do it, to him it is a sin."

- Use of resources: Sodom & Gomorrah

Ezekiel 16:49-50 "49Behold, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom, pride, fullness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. 50And they were haughty, and committed abomination before Me..."

- God takes special note of the plight of the poor:

Proverbs 19:17 "He that has pity upon the poor lends to the Lord; and that which he has given will He pay him again."

Matthew 25:31-45 ([Turn to / read](#))

V: 22-23 Both men die, no mention of Lazarus' burial: poor people and beggars were just scooped up and taken to the Hinnom Valley and burned in the fires, cremated.

Death & Hell: Compartments in hell, physical death is not the end!

(Physical death, spiritual death, eternal death)

- Superior Trinity / inferior trinity: made in the image of God.

James 2:26 "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead."

Ecclesiastes 12:7 "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return to God who gave it." (Explain)

1 Corinthians 5:8 "We are confident I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."

- Death wasn't the end, the angels carried him to Abraham's bosom – a place of comfort;

Isaiah 61:1 “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me; because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the meek; He has sent Me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.”

Ephesians 4:8-9 “⁸Therefore He says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men.” ⁹Now this, “He ascended” - what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?”

Matthew 16:18 “...and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

- The rich man died, was buried, but that was not the end for him either, he was cast into to hell.
- Hell, Hades, the grave, a place of torment and never ending pain.

Psalms 138:1 “For great is Your mercy toward me: and You have delivered my soul from the lowest hell / Sheol (H-7585).” (Pit)

- Abusso, Pit, Tartarus, Gehenna.

2 Peter 2:4 “For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell (Tartarus), and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;”

V: 24 The rich man is being tormented in the flames of hell: (Present tense, conscious)

4 things about hell:

1. **The fire is never quenched.** It's called the lake of fire for a reason.

Isaiah 33:14 “The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness has seized the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings.”

Mark 9:47-48 “⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire - ⁴⁸where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.”

2. **The worm / maggot never dies:** always feeding.

Isaiah 66:24 “And they shall go forth and look upon the corpses of the men who have transgressed against Me. For their worm does not die, and their fire is not quenched. They shall be an abhorrence to all flesh.”

3. **It's a place of intense suffering and anguish.** Eternal torment.

Matthew 22:13 “Then said the king to the servants, bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

4. Hell is referred to at times as the “lake of fire” which I think we’ve covered but it is also referred to as “outer darkness” – meaning there is no light.
- Jesus is the light, if there is no light, true darkness, that means that Jesus is not there. Describing eternal separation from God, something so terrifying that no living man has ever experienced.
- Notice that the rich man was conscious of his tormented condition – he was aware, his body was rotting in the the grave but his soul / consciousness was aware of his torment.
- Thus the request for a drop of water because of his tormented condition.

V: 25-26 But Abraham.... Abraham was a rich / wealthy man – the issue isn’t having riches, or being wealthy – the issue how we view them, the hold they have upon us and what we do with it. What do we trust in, God or in money?

1 Timothy 6:9-10 “⁹But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. ¹⁰For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

- Abraham explained that the rich man had enjoyed a lifetime of comfort and pleasure in the world, and that Lazarus had suffered; now things were reversed.
- Lazarus had come to a place of comfort and the rich man to a place of torment, both based on decisions they’d made while they were still alive. Now there was a gulf or gap between these two distinct places which could not be bridged.

V: 27-28 2nd request: Send Lazarus to my family, my 5 brothers.

- He knows that they are headed in the same direction unless something changes.

V: 29-30 Abraham essentially tells him “no” - the dead will not return to speak with man. (Saul, witch Endor) They already have what they need, they have Moses and the prophets, they have the Word of God – if they’ll take heed to it.

2 Peter 1:2-3 “²Grace and peace be multiplied to you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, ³according as His Divine Power has given unto us all things that pertain unto life and Godliness, through the knowledge of Him that has called us to glory and virtue.”

Revelation 2:7 “He that has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches;...”

- The rich man is under the mistaken perception that if one came from the dead to warn them, they would somehow repent.

V: 31 Abraham tells him, if they won't receive the Word of God then they won't believe just because someone is raised from the dead.

John Ch. 11 Raising of Lazarus from the dead. / Jews plotting to kill Jesus.

John 12:9-11 “⁹Much people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there: and they came not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom He had raised from the dead. ¹⁰But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death; ¹¹because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus.”

- They have Moses and the Law, the Word of God is sufficient.

They had what we have.

Romans 10:17 “So then, faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”

[We have Jesus beckoning us to Himself:](#)

Matthew 11:28-30 “²⁸Come unto Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, or I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”