

**“Go Tell My Brothers”**  
**Luke 16:27-28**

Introduction: The Bible gives us a factual story of a man that died and went to hell. Although the world makes light of this place called hell, making songs about it and using it as a cuss word, it is a literal place of torment. Within a few minutes of being in this abode of torment, he began to scream out for relief. After not being able to receive any, he became very concerned for his brothers. He wanted a message to be relayed to them that would keep them from this horrible dwelling. Notice a few things about this rich man.

1. The Rich Man’s Comfort Luke 16:19, 25
  - a. Hebrews 11:25- “...*the pleasures of sin for a season*”
  - b. Job 21:13- “*They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave.*”
  - c. Luke 12:19- “*And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.*”
2. The Rich Man’s Crumbs Luke 16:20-21
3. The Rich Man’s Calamity Luke 16:22-23
  - a. Hebrews 9:27- “*And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment*”
  - b. Ecclesiastes 8:8- “*There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it.*”
4. The Rich Man’s Cry Luke 16:24
5. The Rich Man’s Concern Luke 16:27-28

Body: Hell is a place of torment. It is a place where a sinner will be separated, sentenced, suffering, and scared. Originally, hell was created for the Devil and his devils, but when a sinner rejects Christ, he or she will be turned into hell. This is a place of confinement where absolutely no one will escape. The company and conversations of hell will only be evil and wickedness. The Bible describes hell as a terrible place. This rich man want a message to be sent from hell to his brothers. His request was never answered. However, if it was I wonder what it would be. Could it be something like:

- I. Life is too short, what are you going to do with it?
  - A. James 4:14- “*Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.*”
  - B. Proverbs 27:1- “*Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.*”
  - C. If one lives to be 70 years of age and is the average person, he spends:

|                            |                                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. 20 years sleeping       | 7. 2.5 years smoking            |
| 2. 20 years working        | 8. 2.5 years in the bed         |
| 3. 6 years eating          | 9. 3 years waiting for somebody |
| 4. 7 years playing         | 10. 5 months tying shoes        |
| 5. 5 years dressing        | 11. 2.5 years for other things  |
| 6. 1 year on the telephone | 12. 1.5 years in church         |

- D. Benjamin Franklin once said, “Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that’s the stuff life is made of.”
  - E. Someone once said, “When you kill time, remember that it has no resurrection.”
  - F. Life is a book of Volumes three  
The Past—the Present—and the Yet-to-be:  
The First is written and laid away,  
The Second we are writing day by day;  
The next and the last of the volumes Three—
  - G. Is locked from sight—God holds the key
  - H. In a twenty-four hour period, 150,000 people die. This is 6,250 every hour, 104 every minute, and two every second.
  - I. Someone once said, “Each moment is the meeting place of two eternities.”
- II. Sin is deceptive, how long are you going to live in it?
- A. I Corinthians 6:9-11, Galatians 5:19-21
  - B. Let us look at this one sin of alcohol.
  - C. Proverbs 20:1- *“Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.”*
  - D. Alcohol costs the U.S. economy an estimated \$134 billion per year in lost productivity and earnings due to alcohol-related illness, premature death, and crime. (The Lewin Group)
  - E. Alcohol leads to cancer, liver cirrhosis, strokes, birth defects, domestic violence, rape, assault, homicide, suicide, and drunk driving.
  - F. The National Crime Victimization Survey reported that as of 1998 81.3% of the population used drugs or alcohol during their lifetime. In 1998, 64% of the population drank alcohol within that year. 36% of the population reported that alcohol has been the source of their family trouble.
  - G. An estimated 480,000 children are mistreated each year by a caretaker with alcohol problems. (Children of Alcoholics Foundation, Inc.)
  - H. Every year in the U.S., approximately 40 percent of fatal traffic crashes involve alcohol. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration)
  - I. In 1997, 40 percent of convicted rape and sexual assault offenders said that they were drinking at the time of their crime. (Alcohol and Crime: Research and Practice for Prevention)
  - J. In 2002, more than 70,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 were victims of alcohol-related sexual assault in the U.S. (Journal of Studies on Alcohol)
  - K. Twenty-eight percent of suicides by children ages nine to 15 were attributable to alcohol. (ncadi.samhsa.gov)
  - L. Not Michelob High Life, but Michelob Low Life— Not Budweiser, but Buddumber
  - M. Proverbs 23:32- *“At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.”*
- III. Salvation is a choice, are you going to make it?
- A. Matthew 7:21-22
  - B. If what you have will not bring you to church, I doubt it will bring you to heaven.
  - C. You cannot lean toward hell all your life and fall into heaven when you die.

- D. Morality may keep you out of jail, but it takes the blood of Jesus to keep you out of hell.
- E. Jesus said that you must be born again. John 3:7- *“Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.”*
  - 1. The New Birth is Essential
  - 2. The New Birth is Evidenced
  - 3. The New Birth is Everlasting
- F. How are we saved?
  - 1. Realize that you are a Sinner Romans 3:23- *“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God”*
  - 2. Repent of your Sin Luke 13:3- *“I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish”*
  - 3. Receive Jesus as Your Saviour Romans 10:13- *“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved”*
- G. II Corinthians 5:17- *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”*
- H. Marvin Eugene Throneberry was an American Major League Baseball player, best remembered as the starting first baseman for the 1962 New York Mets. In one famous story, on June 17, 1962, Throneberry hit a triple in a game against the Cubs, but was called out for not touching second base. According to the legend, manager Casey Stengel came out to argue the call, but was told by the umpire "Don't bother arguing Casey, he missed first base, too." The next batter hit a home run, prompting Stengel to come out of the dugout following him and pointing at all four bases. Throneberry's mistake proved costly, as the Cubs won the game 8-7.

Conclusion: Although this rich man in hell had a desire to reach out to his brothers, he could not. He realized the fact that it was up to them to hear the preacher and repent of their sins. No matter how hard he tried, his efforts were useless. It was up to them to react to the Word of God. It was up to them to respond to:

- 1. The Preaching of the Scriptures Luke 16:29
- 2. The Proof of a Saviour Luke 16:30
- 3. The Persuasion of the Sinner Luke 16:31