

THAT ALL MEN MUST DIE

1. "And it came to pass the the begger died." Verse 22
2. "The rich man also died." Verse 22

THE TWO FUNERALS AND LESSONS WE LEARN

1. A man may have but the burial of a dog and yet be attended by the angels of God.
 1. Not much of a casket as the container for his body. Maybe no casket at all.
 2. The soul of Lazarus which was precious in the sight of God, had lived most if not all of its earthly existence in a casket in a broken and bad condition.
 3. No poorhouse inmate ever got a more unceremonial funeral than Lazarus.
 4. I rather suspect that people who had not even noticed Lazarus in his awful condition may have, if they said anything, spoken of his funeral in the words of a poet who wrote of the funeral of the poor in these words:

"They rattle his bones over the stones,
He is only a pauper whom nobody owns."

1. In spite of all this, the unceremonial funeral, no one to mourn Lazarus' death, the cold words: "he was just a begger anyway always begging us for the crumbs that fall from our "well spread" tables:
 1. God owns him, and white-robed angels bear his emancipated spirit to the Father's bosom.
2. That a man may have a pompous funeral, and at the same time be a miserable soul. Verses 22, 23
 1. The casket of the rich man was very expensive but inside was a body that had housed a broken, disfigured soul which would remind us of Jesus' statment in Matt. 23:27:
 1. You appear beautiful outwardly...
 2. But within are full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness.
 2. There would be more real mourners at some funeral if only they could see within the vail.
 2. Men come to eulogise the past of the world's departed great ones, but what about the present?

LESSONS FROM LUKE 16:19-31

WE LEARN:

1. That a man may have abundance of this world's goods and yet, in the world to come, be utterly destitute of the commonest mercy. Verse 24
2. That a man may be poor and loathsome in the eyes of his neighbor, and yet be rich and beautiful in the sight of God.
3. The resemblance between these two men. They were alike in at least three respects. We consider:
 1. The mortality of their bodies.
 1. No sooner is it said, "the beggar died," than it is added, "the rich man also died." Heb 9:27
 2. They were both men, sinful men, dying men.
 2. The Immortality of their souls.
 1. The soul of the poorest among us is as immortal as the soul of the richest.
 2. 3 John 1, 2; "The elder unto the well-beloved Gaius, whom I love in the truth. Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."
 3. The rich man had prospered materially and no doubt was in good health but his soul had been starved even unto death.
 4. Lazarus had not prospered materially or in physical health but his soul though housed in a broken casket (body) was rich before God
 3. Both were accountable to God.
 1. It was not blind chance which placed these men where they are.
 2. They went thither from a bar of judgment.
 3. Both had been measured by God's Word the (922) standard of judgment for all. John 12:48
4. Lessons the rich man learned too late.
 1. He found out in eternity that a "smiling providence" is no evidence that the soul is right with God. "In hell he lifted up his eyes." V.23
 2. He found out in eternity that "thirst" for even a drop of water is an awful experience for a man who never knew what "want" was.

