

A Drop of Cool Water for a Tormented Tongue

The worst situation a person can experience is to be just beyond getting help. Such an experience has pushed people into homelessness, death by starvation or thirst, suicide or end up in hell for eternity. Jesus related an account of a beggar named Lazarus and a rich man in Luke 16:19-31 (NKJV). It must be an actual event because Jesus named the beggar. He lay at the entrance of a rich man's house with an ulcerated, emaciated body. Dogs licked the sores on his body. The rich man only offered the beggar crumbs from his sumptuously ladened table. He could have provided a bath, medical care, and nourishing food and drink. The beggar was poor physically and in spirit. He was hungry and thirsty. He mourned in body and spirit. Yet he remained meek. The beggar died, but God saw his pure heart and was merciful, and carried him into heaven. The rich man also died. His uncaring, selfish, and arrogant heart was a barrier to his entry into heaven. Instead, he entered hell, a place of the living dead. An impassable gulf separates heaven and hell. Heaven is a place of refreshing, joyful life. Hell has a tormenting, endless burning, agonizing regret for lost opportunities, an accusing conscience and a permanent, irreversible separation from God. The rich man cried to Father Abraham for a drop of cool water and to send someone to his five brothers to tell them to change the way they were living. Jesus paid

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the price for all people to enter heaven. But each person must accept him as their Savior, otherwise, they pay the price in hell. If you have not accepted Jesus, I encourage you to do so today and become God's child. If Jesus is your Savior, I encourage you to share this Friday Blessing with an unbeliever. Shalom!!

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