

Sunday, May 02, 2021

Pastor Jake Magee

The Journey | Myths about the Afterlife | Luke 16:19-31



¹⁹“There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried, ²³and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ ²⁵But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. ²⁶And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ ²⁷And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house— ²⁸for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ ³⁰And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’ ”

Myths about the Afterlife

1. There is _____.

2. _____ goes to heaven.

3. _____ people go to heaven.

4. Hell makes people _____.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” – John 3:16

Small Group Questions: 5.02

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Getting Started

List as many theories about the afterlife as you can.

Digging Deeper (Read Luke 16:19-31)

On Sunday we examined some mistakes people make about the afterlife. Work through mistakes listed below.

Mistake #1) “There is no afterlife.”

- Who says this and why?
- What does Jesus say about this in our passage and elsewhere?
- How does this position conflict with our deep intuitions about justice?
- If true, how does this affect our definition for success in life? Where do you see that in this story?

Mistake #2) “Everyone goes to heaven.”

- Who says this and why?
- Some say that people in hell will eventually embrace Jesus and go to heaven.
- Where do you think they get this idea from?
- What does Jesus say in our passage and elsewhere that says otherwise.

Mistake #3) “Good people go to heaven.”

- Who says this and why?
- List some of the mistaken reasons to believe why the poor man is in heaven and the rich man in hell?
- What clues do you see in this passage *for why* the poor man is in heaven and the rich guy is in hell?

Mistake #4) “Hell makes people better.”

- Some are tempted to believe that people in hell finally realize the truth, are repentant, and want to get out but can't. What's wrong with this idea?
- What are some indicators the rich man never changed for the better?
- Although hell is *a punishment, a consequence, and is irreversible*, one of the ideas suggested Sunday is that it is preferred to heaven by those in it. Examine John 3:19-20 and discuss how this could be a possibility.

Mistake #5) “Hell is proof that God is Unloving.”

- Why would someone argue this?
- How does the gospel address this?

Making It Real

Pray for someone who is far from God.

◆ **KIDS Ministry: SUMMER LAUNCH!**

Summer Launch VBS will be held at Mason County Christian School June 21-24. Q: Contact Director Anne-Marie Nakhla (360) 426-8461

◆ **HS SUMMER MISSION**

Come visit our tables on the patio **OR in the Family Center if it is raining... and learn more about our plans for this summer!** Find out how you can help our students out on this mission adventure!

PRAY WORK GO GROW

◆ **Child Dedications, Mother's Day, May 09**

At FBC, the dedication of our children to the Lord is intended to be a covenant between the parents and God on the behalf of the child. It is a commitment to raise their child in the Christian faith, guiding them in the Word of God and by examples of our Christian lives, and provide them with opportunities at home and at church to learn and develop their own faith and trust in God. If you desire to have your child[ren] dedicated to the Lord, please contact Natalie, or if you have Questions, please contact Pastor Glen. at 360-426-8461.

◆ **Women's Ministry Fellowship**

Ladies Craft Night! Tie Dye Scarves:

Friday, May 07— 6 pm here at FBC - Sign up to attend at the Info-Center Today!

Visit our *FBC Shelton Women's Fellowship* on facebook.

◆ **Love & Respect Marriage Classes,**

Thursdays @ 6 pm. Child Care Provided! We still have room for you! Even if you missed last week, join us this Thursday. REGISTER at www.sheltonfbc.org/LoveRespect

◆ **LiveWires: Senior Adults 60+:**

We are so happy to be in the planning stages of starting up our LiveWires Senior Adult's ministry again! We want to get together soon! Watch for more information. We love our Senior Adults!!!

- ◆ **Sparrow Care Ministry:** We are so thankful for and still accepting frozen meals for our foster, kinship, adoptive families. Drop off your meal[s] labeled Sparrow Care, to our kitchen on Sundays. Place in our refrigerator or freezer as needed. If you have any questions, you can contact Amy at 360-790-8139 or Arienne at 360-401-9500



428 W. Cota St. | Shelton WA 98584
Office: M-Th. 8:30 am —3:30 pm
Phone: (360) 426-8461
Email: fbc@sheltonfbc.org
www.sheltonfbc.org