**TENDENCIES FOR THE LOVERS OF MONEY**

**Text: Luke 16:19-31**

* 19 “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day.
* 20 At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores
* 21 and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.
* 22 “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried.
* 23 In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.
* 24 So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’
* 25 “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.
* 26 And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’
* 27 “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, 28 for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’
* 29 “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’
* 30 “‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’
* 31 “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

**INTRO:**

* Tendency-a proneness to a particular kind of thought or action; end or result
* Kahihinatnan o patutunguhan

**AIM:**

* FOR US TO BE AWARE OF THE TENDENCIES IF WE LOVE MONEY
* FOR US TO BE FREE FROM THE LOVE OF MONEY

**I. YOU WOULD BE SELFISH-V 19**

* “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day.
* God comforts us not to be comfortable but to be a comforter
* God blesses us not to improve our living but our giving
* To keep the blessing for our own is out of God’s will
* Luxury-Something inessential but conducive to pleasure and comfort.
* Something expensive or hard to obtain
* Again Jesus commands those who desires to follow Him to deny themselves-Luke 9:23

**II. YOU WOULD BE STINGY-V 20-21**

* Stingy-reluctant to give or spend; not generous
* 20 At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores
* He didn’t drive away the beggar neither did he welcome him in
* 21 and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.
* This signifies that the beggar saw that some of the rich man’s food fell from the table
* This is a very strong evidence that he wasn’t given any
* It’s easy to share when you got lots but to be generous is an attitude
* When you are greedy, no matter how much you still can’t share
* He should have done something with the beggar’s sore or else it wouldn’t be emphasized in the Bible

**III. YOU WILL ALSO DIE-V 22**

* Proverbs 22:2 2 The rich and the poor have this in common,
* The Lord is the maker of them all.
* Another thing we have in common is, we all die
* Money cannot prevent death from happening
* Luke 16:9 I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.
* Matthew 6:19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal;
* 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.
* 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

**IV. YOU WILL BE TORMENTED IN HELL-V 23**

* 23 In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.
* Why did he end up in hell?
* Mark 10:24 And the disciples were astonished at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, “Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God!
* Mar 10:25 “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”
* There is no problem in being rich as long you keep yourself free from the love of money
* Part of his agony was to see Lazarus with Abraham
* He was tormented in fire

**V. YOU WOULD BEG AND WOULD NOT BE HEARD-V 24-28**

* 24 So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’
* Pro 21:13 Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor
* Will also cry himself and not be heard.
* He begged for Lazarus finger to dipped in water and cool his tongue
* 25 “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.
* Earthly prosperity and magnificence are no proofs of the Divine favour.
* If he had been able to share his blessings, he wouldn’t end up there
* 26 And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.
* Remember that where your treasure is there your heart will be also
* He also begged for Lazarus to be sent to his father’s house for he has 5 brothers there, he doesn’t want them to end like him

**VI. ABRAHAM’S REPLY TO HIM**

* 29 “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’
* Basically they have to believe and accept Jesus but they also have to obey what He said to sell what they have and give it to the poor
* They should not esteemed money more than they value God
* I Cor 6:9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals,[a] nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.
* **WHAT COMES AFTER DEATH IS TO US OF FAR MORE IMPORTANCE THAN WHAT COMES BEFORE.**
* When Abraham said that, he also tells us that our last court of appeal to go to heaven is God’s Word.
* If you fail with it, that’s final and the only chance we have
* John 6:27 Do not labour for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.”
* The rich man insisted to send Lazarus
* But Abraham said, if they don’t hear God’s word neither will a dead man convince them and persuade them to repent

**VII. LESSONS**

The rich man and Lazarus

I. THE CONTRASTS.

**1. In their external circumstances.**

(1) One rich; the other poor.

(2) One elegantly clothed; theother as a beggar.

(3) One sumptuously fed; the other desiring the rich man’s crumbs.

(4) One in health; the other physically wretched.

(5) One socially influential; the other in beggarly isolation.

**2. In their spiritual condition.**

(1) One exulting in his wealth; the other contented in his poverty.

(2) One satisfied with his earthly possessions; the other seeking treasure in heaven.

(3) One selfish and ungodly; the other a self-sacrificing believer.

**3. In their eternal destiny.**

(1) One cast into hell; the other carried into heaven.

(2) One tormented; the other comforted.

(3) One associated with demons; the other in companionship with Abraham.

(4) One in unalterable anguish; the other in permanent blessedness.

**4. As to Providence.**

(1) Worldly prosperity no proof of acceptance with God.

(2) Poverty and distress no proof of Divine abandonment.

(3) Worldly isolation compatible with Divine companionship.

**5. As to spiritual life.**

(1) Ease, luxury, and social elevation do not lead to spiritual-mindedness.

(2) Beggary, physical helplessness, and deprivation of all worldly comforts, not able to wean the believer from God.

(3) The Holy Scriptures God’s best guide to spiritual truth.

**CHALENGE:**

* What proofs have you got to say you are not a lover of money?
* Which one do you highly esteem money or God’s Word?

**CONCLUSION:**

* Mark 10:23 Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!”