

# Ears to Hear Moses and the Prophets

*Promise: believers shortchanged now will not be in the hereafter*

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Amos 6:1-7; Ps 146; Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31  
(16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost [Proper 21], 9/29/19)

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**Lead In** – I am sharing a passage of Scripture that you might at first think a strange way to begin a sermon on the Rich Man and Lazarus. The passage is from the Ap Paul's letter to the Church in Corinth, 1 Corinthians 15:19...

## I. In An Attempt To Be Relevant Pop Xianity...

### II. With An Emphasis In A This-Life Hope

- A. We admire the well-dressed wealthy...
- B. We will seek to avoid the down-and-outers...

### III. Need To Be Clear of Basis For Going to Heaven

- A. For by grace are you saved by faith...
- B. Not all down-and-outers will have faith...

### IV. We Have Moses, the Prophets, And More!

- A. All Scripture points to Christ, and brings us...
- B. Scripture speaks of a future hope...
- C. So would you consider this message relevant?

**Parting Shot** – When I was in seminary preparing for the Pastoral Office, many of us dreaded ministry associated with death and dying. How do you minister to someone on their death bed? How do you offer comfort at a funeral? And yet as the years have passed... Now it is weddings that offer the biggest challenge... If for this life only, then Xianity seems to lack relevance...

**1 Cor 15:19** If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

**James 2:1-4** My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

**Eph 2:8-9** For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

**Rev 2:7** He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

**1 Cor 2:12** Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

# Luke 16:19-31 ESV

*The Rich Man and Lazarus*

<sup>19</sup>There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, <sup>23</sup>and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. <sup>24</sup>And 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.' <sup>25</sup>But 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. <sup>26</sup>And 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.' <sup>27</sup>And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— <sup>28</sup>for I have five brothers— so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' <sup>29</sup>But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' <sup>30</sup>And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' <sup>31</sup>He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'

**John 5:39** You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me.

**Pointing to Christ** – e.g. *seed of the woman; deliverer and prophet like unto Moses, a Davidic King with an eternal reign...*

**Future Hope** – e.g. *mountain of the Lord, new heaven and earth, a temple with a river of life flowing from threshold...*

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