

Where did the rich man go?
 What made the difference?
 What did Dives see one day?
 What did he ask?
 Why could he not get help?
 What spirit do we carry into the next life?

Questions to Think About.
 Do you like to keep your good things to yourself?
 Do you ever give away something you want to keep?
 How much did Jesus give up for your sake?

LESSON OUTLINE.

The Saved and the Lost.

I. THE SAVED HEREAFTER.

1. **His Privilege.** *Carried by the angels.* v. 22.
 Shall gather together his elect. Matt. 24. 31.
 We shall all be changed. 1 Cor. 15. 51.
2. **His Fellowship.** *Into Abraham's bosom.* v. 22.
 Shall I know even as....am known. 1 Cor. 13. 12.
 So shall we ever be with the Lord. 1 Thess. 4. 17.
3. **His Happiness.** *He is comforted.* v. 25.
 God shall wipe away all tears. Rev. 21. 4.
 Eternal weight of glory. 2 Cor. 4. 17.

II. THE LOST CONDITION.

1. **Consciousness.** *He lifted up his eyes.* v. 23.
 There shall be weeping. Luke 13. 28.
 The fire is not quenched. Mark 9. 43.

2. **Misery.** *I am tormented.* v. 24.
 The smoke of their torment. Rev. 14. 11.
 Tribulation and anguish. Rom. 2. 9.
3. **Separation.** *A great gulf fixed.* v. 26.
 From the presence of the Lord. 2 Thess. 1. 9.
 Depart from me, ye cursed. Matt. 25. 41.

III. THE WAY OF SALVATION.

1. **Knowledge.** *Moses and the prophets.* v. 29.
 Search the Scriptures....eternal life. John 5. 39.
2. **Heeding.** *Let them hear them.* v. 29.
 Seek ye the Lord. Isa. 55. 7.
3. **Repentance.** *They will repent.* v. 30.
 Repent ye and believe. Mark 1. 15.
4. **Faith.** *Be persuaded.* v. 31.
 Believed Moses....believed me. John 5. 46.

EXPLANATORY AND PRACTICAL NOTES.

General Statement.

While proceeding on his Perea journey Jesus was on one occasion brought into contact with a number of Pharisees who rejected with disdain his teachings concerning worldliness. Christ declared that the opinions of earth were not the standard of heaven. To show that the most envied here are not the favorites there, and that the despised here may prove the honored ones hereafter, the Lord lifts the curtain of the eternal world, and bids his revilers look upon the contrast of the rich man and Lazarus, both in this life and the life to come. It was now about three months before the crucifixion, and our Lord was still in Perea. Conjecturally we may locate the historical setting of this parable near Bethabara, beyond Jordan, late in December, A. D. 29, or early in January, A. D. 30. It was uttered not long after the parable of the prodigal son.

Verse 19. A certain rich man. Unnamed. The rich men of America are known by name even to schoolboys. It is the poor whose names are unknown in the world's conversation. But God has other standards, and writes some poor men's names in the roll books of heaven, where earthly riches do not count. This man is often called Dives, but that is simply the Latin word for "a rich man." **Clothed in purple and fine linen.** In the Orient a man's social rank, and generally also his trade, is shown by his dress. The uniform black garments of Europe and America, which make many a hungry poor man look as "respectable" as a millionaire, are unknown in that land of color and shadow. A rich man carries as much of his wealth as he can on his person, and in ancient times often ran through a whole gamut of color to show forth his wealth. Unostentatious wealth is unknown in the Orient. Purple robes were the sign of highest rank. There

was a famous purple dye, made from a Syrian seashell, which was of almost incalculable value, but is now lost. Dr. M. R. Vincent says that under the term purple were included three distinct and very beautiful colors: a deep violet, a deep scarlet, and a deep blue. The first two were much in demand as dyes of wool. Fine linen was used for the inner garment. It was made from a sort of flax that grew on the banks of the Nile, was as soft as silk, and could be woven so fine as to be practically transparent. This Egyptian fine linen is also of wonderful costliness. **Fared sumptuously every day.** With wine and song, movement and color, luxuries for the palate, the ear, and the eye, he made his whole life one prolonged banquet. How he acquired his riches we are not told, and it would have no bearing on the moral of this story.