Luke 16:19-31

Lazarus and the Rich Man

19 Jesus said, “There was a rich man. He always dressed in the finest clothes. He was so rich that he was able to feast and have a party every day. 20 There was also a very poor man named Lazarus. His body was covered with sores. He was often put at the rich man’s gate. 21 Lazarus only wanted to eat the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. Instead, the dogs came and licked his sores! 22 After a while, the poor man died. The angels took Lazarus and placed him in the arms of Abraham. The rich man also died, and he was buried. 23 He was sent to Hades, and he was in much pain. The rich man saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus in his arms. 24 He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me! Send Lazarus to me, so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue. I am suffering in this fire!’ 25 But Abraham said, ‘My child, do you remember when you lived on earth? You had all the good things in life, but all the bad things happened to Lazarus. Now he is comforted here, and you are suffering. 26 Also, there is a great canyon established between you people and us. No one can cross over to help you; and no one can come over here to us from there.’ 27 The rich man said, ‘Then father Abraham, please send Lazarus to my father’s household on earth! 28 I have five brothers. Lazarus could warn my brothers, so that they won’t come to this place of pain.’ 29 But Abraham said, ‘They have the law of Moses and the prophets to read; let them learn from that!’ 30 But the rich man said, ‘No, father Abraham! If only someone could come back to them from death, then they would change their hearts.’ 31 But Abraham said to him, ‘No! If your brothers won’t listen to the law of Moses and the prophets, then they wouldn’t be persuaded by anyone who might come back from death!’”