

## **If You Do Not See The Coffin; Then You Will Not Shed A Tear.**

*"I don't want to die, yet!"*

I have a story I want to tell to you. This story is in the Bible in Luke 16:19-31. It is a story about a rich man and Lazarus. A rich man is person with a good economic status. He has a lot of money and wears expensive clothing. When the rich man lived in this world he did not care about having a relationship with God. He did not put his trust in God. He lived his life only to please himself. Lazarus was a beggar. He had sores all over his body. Dogs even licked his wounds. Lazarus ate the scraps of food that fell from the rich man's table. Lazarus may have been poor in this world, but he was rich toward God. He believed and trusted God. When Lazarus died he went to live with God in heaven. When the rich man died, he went to hell where the fire is not quenched.

The rich man suffered and was tormented, because the fire was very hot. When he looked up and saw Lazarus in heaven, he begged Abraham to "Have Lazarus put his finger in water and come here to cool my tongue, because I am tormented in these flames." But, he said, "Remember that during your lifetime you did not want to believe God, but Lazarus did and now he is comforted and you are tormented. Besides all this, between you and us there is a large gulf dividing us, so if anyone tries to come from you to us, they cannot." Then the rich man begged Abraham, "If that is the case, please send Lazarus to the world in order to warn my brothers. They will listen to Lazarus, who has risen from the dead." But he replied, "If they will not listen to God's Word, they will also not listen to someone who is risen from the dead."

The rich man did not want to believe God while he was alive. He did not want to follow God and his teachings. He only wanted to live for himself and bring himself pleasure. He could do whatever he wanted, but when he went to hell, then he felt sorry for himself. He received torment in hell. He wanted to go back and start his life all over so he could correct his wrong doings, but that was impossible. Therefore, it is the saying, "if you do not see the coffin, then you will not shed a tear."

Are you like the rich man? He would have liked to start life all over again, but the rich man had no more opportunity to be saved. You still have an opportunity, but if you let it go then may I warn you that: you are asking to see the coffin before shedding your tears. Do you need a Savior? Jesus Christ loves you. He pleads with you to repent of your sin and receive Him by faith as your Savior.