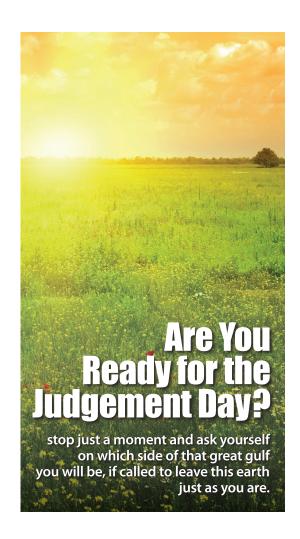
and impassable chasm between the saved and lost in eternity. From a casual reading of this, one might conclude that wealth and poverty were the issues in question. A closer look, however, shows that the rich man's indulgence in his wealth kept him from taking God seriously. In verses 29 to 31 the real issue is hearing God's Word and responding to it in repentance. Is there anything in your life that keeps you from taking God seriously? If so, Jesus makes it clear that now, in this life is the time to think about it. After death you will have an eternity to think about it, but then it will be impossible to do anything about it. This "great gulf fixed" speaks of an eternal separation from all that is holy and happy and beautiful. In view of this fact, stop just a moment and ask yourself on which side of that great gulf you will be, if called to leave this earth just as you are. Remember that if you are not on the Lord's side in this life, you will not be then. The Lord Jesus Christ is waiting to pardon all who will come to Him in true repentance and accept His offer of Salvation which He procured at such a tremendous cost when He died for us on Calvary's Cross. Be wise and accept His loving invitation now so you will have a part with Him in fullness of joy to praise Him for all eternity.



Death

"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Hebrews 9:27

Resurrection

"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5:28-29 "For the Lord Himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first." I Thessalonians 4:16

Judgment

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the Book of Life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the Lake of Fire."

Revelation 20:12,15

Warning

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Hebrews 10:31 "Therefore... prepare to meet thy God." Amos 4:12

How Shall We Escape?

"If we neglect so great salvation?" Hebrews 2:3

Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." John 14:6

"Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in Heaven." Matthew 10:32

"Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3

"And him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37

"For whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:13

A Great Gulf Fixed

Luke 16:19-31

The Lord Jesus told about two men who were opposites in almost every respect. One was excessively rich and the other extremely poor. The rich man did not seem to have a problem in the world, and lived in luxury every day. The poor beggar had only scraps of leftover food, rags and a body full of sores. The scene changed abruptly, however. Both men died and Jesus gave us a glimpse into eternity. He described a startling reversal of circumstances. The rich man was now in anguish and torment. The beggar, Lazarus, was experiencing joy, peace and rest. Seeing Lazarus, the rich man begged that he bring a drop of water to relieve him of his torment. He was refused this with the explanation that there is a "great gulf fixed" between them. In other words Jesus was saying that God had fixed an immense, unalterable