

Dr. Gerry Breshears
Message – February 26-27, 2005
Questions for Deeper Discussion

The Intermediate State
Luke 16:19-31

Definition of the Intermediate State: “The state between physical death of our bodies and the physical resurrection of our bodies.”

What happens when you die? Luke 16:19-31 is not a parable but a true story that Jesus shares with those in his presence in the first-century.

Two men in different locations after the death of their physical bodies:

- Rich man – in “hades,” a place of pain, unfulfilled desires, where he is helpless to change his state, hopeless in that state, and without the presence of the grace of God.
- Lazarus – in “Abraham’s bosom,” a place of joy, peace, rest, comfort, presence and grace of God.

What is it that has caused these two men to be in different places?

- The choice of the “god” they followed in physical life on earth.

Where will we as believers be after the physical death of our bodies? Philippians 1:23 says we will be with the Lord in heaven. See also 2Corinthians 4:14; 5:8; and John 14:1-3.

What is true of those who have died?

- They are awake
- They are aware of their former life
- They have the use of their faculties, recognizing people
- They have the full activity of their senses, desires
- They can speak

What benefit is this story to your life?

Who are those around you, above you like the “rich man,” or below you like “Lazarus,” that you can identify and set a plan to have more spiritual conversations with before their physical body dies?