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Sunday AM Bible Study	9:30 AM
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday PM Worship	5:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Class	7:00 PM

Elders

Eddie Frizzell	(931) 526-3505
Gary Medley	(931) 528-8768
Roger Mayberry	(931) 537-3265

Deacons

Colonel Wheeler	(931) 526-5808
Greg Frizzell	(931) 265-2192
Kale Burchett	(615) 533-9134

Preacher

Randy Bybee	(931) 268-0912
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Welcome

The Pippin church of Christ extends to you a cordial welcome. We hope the services have been uplifting, and you will want to return at every opportunity.

Our purpose in meeting is to worship God in Spirit and in truth. God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and Truth. John 4:24

How to Become a Christian

Hear the Word - Romans 10:17
Believe - Mark 16:15
Repent of Past Sins - Luke 13:3
Confess - Romans 10:9
Be Baptized - Acts 2:38
Remain Faithful - Revelation 2:10

Radio Programs

The Lord's Way
AM 920 WLIV - Tuesdays @ 10:10AM

A Challenge to Think
AM 1400 WHUB - Sundays @ 9:05AM

Volume 35, No. 5

The Rich Man in Hades

By Randy Bybee

In each Pippin bulletin, there is a Bible question of the week as well as the answer for the question that appeared in the bulletin the previous week. It is hoped that these questions encourage Bible study and serious reflection of the word of God. This article more carefully considers the question that was posed in the bulletin which was distributed on Sunday, January 14, 2018.

The question that appeared at that time was worded as follows. "Who carried the rich man's spirit to Abraham's bosom?" The answer that appeared in the bulletin of the following Sunday was angels, with a reference to Luke 16:22. There is a mistake in the wording of this question, and the design of this present article is to correct that teaching so that no lasting harm develops therefrom. I (Randy Bybee) generate the questions that appear in the bulletin, and the question that I typed for that bulletin edition is not consistent with the Bible text. I thank Bill Brown for bringing the issue to my attention so that this clarification could occur.

The human being is an immortal spirit, which spirit is imparted by God at the moment of conception. (Gn. 1:26f; Zech. 12:1; Heb. 12:9) While the human lives on earth, that spirit tabernacles in the physical body of the individual and really constitutes the person. (2 Corinthians 5:1ff) In the act of death, the spirit departs the body and proceeds to dwell in a realm called Hades in the Bible. (Jam. 2:26; Lk. 16:19-31; Mt. 16:18; Acts 2:31) With the spirit no longer dwelling in the body, the body is said to be dead; the body is buried and proceeds to return to the dust of which it was made. (Gn. 3:19; Ecc. 12:7) It is exceedingly significant to note that Hades is a realm in which there is consciousness and awareness. Note that the rich man, after his death but before the judgment, was aware that he was experiencing torment. (Lk. 16:24) Similarly, Lazarus, again after death but before the judgment, was experiencing comfort. (Lk. 16:25) Finally, it might be noted that these locations in Hades are not Heaven since Jesus promised that no one would enter Heaven until He came back. (John 14:1-3)

In light of these observations, it is appropriate to reflect on the question and answer, as referenced above, posed in the bulletin. The verse as noted above is as follows: "*And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried.*" According to this text, angels carried the spirit of the beggar (Lazarus) to Abraham's bosom, a place known otherwise in the scriptures as *paradise*. (Lk. 23:43) The question that appeared in the bulletin of a few weeks ago should have read "Who carried the spirit of Lazarus to Abraham's bosom?" It is clear that the rich man died, and his spirit also was carried to the Hadean realm. Presumably, angels carried the rich man's spirit to Hades, but clearly it was not Abraham's bosom, the place in Hades where Lazarus was. The rich man was experiencing torment (Lk. 16:24), but Lazarus was experiencing comfort. (Lk. 16:25) In summary, those who die outside the Lord are found in Hades in a place of torment, but those who die in the Lord are found in Hades in a place of comfort known as Abraham's bosom. (Rev. 14:13) I apologize for the mistake and am thankful for the opportunity to correct the mistake and clarify this interesting subject.

