

*The Rich Man & Lazarus*  
Poverty & Riches.- Sunday Sept. 10th, 1916.  
Chas. Fillmore.

*after death*  
*What?*

Let us pray. We are commanded to pray for whatever we desire. If it is a temporal thing that we seek, we should pray for it. If it is spiritual, we should also pray for the spiritual, and with all our prayers we should have understanding of the Law of prayer, and understanding of our relation to that to which we address our prayers. We should also understand ourselves because thru this understanding we shall get results if we use the Law. Now, we have in most of our religious education made a

separation between the temporal things and the spiritual. We have not attributed our poverty to a lack of spiritual riches. Fuller understanding of the Law of Mind reveals that if our minds were rich with spiritual possessions, we would have abundance in the material. Then, we must get rich with the Law. We must have fuller understanding and application of this great Truth which Jesus laid down: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." He also promised his followers that if they first

ness of the Spirit, then realizing that in this consciousness we have all things; that everything has been provided; nothing lacking; and the consciousness which we there have is manifest. See the thing in the outer as you have it in the inner. We will take as our central idea in this attitude a word something like this:- we want wisdom, so we will affirm: "I am wise in the use of thy Law, and my riches are spiritual." (Silence.)

The text of our lesson this morning is one of vital interest, especially to metaphysicians. It touches upon a phase

father, mother, brother, sister, houses and lands they should here in this time have other brothers and sisters, houses and lands. Now we know that these promises were not idle; they were made by one who had the understanding, and when the same law is fulfilled that he had an understanding of we will reap the same benefits. So our prayers must be based upon this understanding - the understanding that <sup>if</sup> we have a spiritual consciousness of the riches of the Spirit we shall have the temporal fulfillment. Then let us pray by placing ourselves first in the conscious-

authority for your Truth. It makes no difference how many great minds have dealt with this proposition, it makes no difference what their conclusions may be, you must know for yourself, based upon your understanding before you will have the real Truth, so you can speak with authority. We do not accept what the ~~xxx~~ fathers have said religiously about heaven and hell or the condition of the dead; we want to know for ourselves. And how shall we know? Well, by experience. And have we had experience in this condition? Well, we say we have; but are we conscious of it?

of consciousness - because that is what it is - that we are in a measure a little sensitive about in our discussions because of a certain ignorance of the character of the state which is here represented - the condition of man after death. Now we find that we can scientifically and truly only describe to any Truth student those conditions in which we have experience or have a consciousness of. Truth does not theorize; Truth does not guess at conditions, and it must spiritually at least know, or logically know. You will find that you cannot take any outside

No; we are alive. Then we do not really know what death is.

We can in a measure give an allegorical description of what the conditions may be; we can cite the authorities of the different religions and sum them up and we find that they agree in essentials; but we do not know absolutely until we have had experience.

So in our consideration of the matter this morning we will have to get at it in a symbolical way just as Jesus did. He did not give a definite place to the heaven - Abraham's bosom - he gave that oriental freedom in the play of his metaphysical under-

standing. He did not claim that Lazarus went to heaven, or that he was in paradise, but he was in a state of consciousness which corresponded to the bliss or the peace of the soul. He was in Abraham's bosom. The Rich Man was in the opposite state of consciousness. He was in the place called in the King James version - hell. We have always been taught that hell was a very undesirable place; that it was a place where there was a good deal of fire and brimstone and satanic imps and all that sort of thing, but there is no such meaning attached to the Hades here mentioned

and we cannot find in the Bible that any such place was ever thot  
of by the writers. That hell was invented by Dante and Milton  
and other poets. They drew upon their imagination and made that  
kind of a place, and when the New Testament was translated they  
just stuck in hell. The true translation is Hades, and means  
a sequestered in the unknown. In some places it is translated  
as a place of purification; a place where the soul goes thru a  
dedication, ~~ia~~ a certain kind of elimination of its error and  
faults - so it is not the old style hell at all. It would ans-  
wer better as a place ~~where~~ in which man

a part of his consciousness and fails to find the necessary satisfaction of the desires that arise in him. Now, we would consider that Lazarus and the Rich Man are the two poles of thought in every individual; one represents the sense consciousness and the other the soul consciousness. Lazarus is the soul in every man, and the Rich Man is the one who lays hold of the things of the world. He becomes rich in the possession of materiality. Now, if you are allowing your selfish desires for sense sensations - if you are allowing your desires for the riches of the world

in ~~any~~ of its aspects - if you are living on what we call the material plane, you are the Rich Man and your soul is being starved. It is a beggar. You are not giving it what belongs to it. It has sores. That means that it is in a state of ; it is ; it is starved for life; you have starved the life current in it; there is a lack of soul-consciousness. That is, you have not fed your soul with spiritual thoughts, and what is the result? Why, you are building up the flesh man; you are giving him the preponderance of thought; you are giving

him all your attention; you are making a man in a world that is not real, a world that cannot be satisfactory in its own realm, its own sphere. The sense man is never satisfied; it is always craving something more if you feed it with temporal things. A man that has a thirst is never satisfied with the temporal or material satisfying of that thirst; he constantly wants more and more because he is not getting the satisfaction from the right source.. So with the man that desires to gain riches. He is never satisfied with his gains because he is searching

in the wrong direction. He is trying to bring satisfaction out of these conditions, and they have no source in themselves. Now, what is the true satisfaction? Why, to understand the law, and the law is that all things temporal come from the Spirit; that the things, as Paul says, were not made from the things themselves, but from Spiritual things. That is, we must comply with the law which is that from thoughts come things. Supposing then, that in our life in the body we ignore this law and continue to ignore it. There is sooner or later a break between the Spiritual thinking and the

material thinking. The result is a sundering of these states of thought; the material thinking man goes to himself, and the Spiritual thinking man goes to himself; that is, the accumulated thoughts - and they leave the body and the body goes to the grave. Now, in what ~~ix~~ condition does the man find himself? He is broken into parts; he is not a whole man; the man~~i~~ is not complete. It is only in the conscious union of Spirit, soul and body that the whole man is in manifestation.. With this understanding we can unravel the various theories about the condition of the soul after death.

These theories are based upon certain conditions that we can arrive at thru an understanding of the action of mind, how mind makes thoughts and how thoughts come together, each after its like fellow: thoughts join one another, and we can logically arrive at the conclusion that certain line of thinking will bring a certain result, and the material thoughts, the sense consciousness, must build that kind of a mind. The thoughts about Spirit, the thoughts about the condition of the Spiritual Man must build a state of consciousness after that idea. Now, these two states of consciousness are really

at war~~p~~ with each other unless there is a higher understanding, and that is the mind of the Spirit illuminated by this divine source. We call that the Spiritual I-am; the Christ of God. So you see how necessary it is that we enter into the regeneration; the blending of these two states of consciousness- the inner and the outer; the ~~rich~~ rich man and Lazarus. Now, it is not necessary that the soul be a beggar in us. It is not in its right relation to Lazarus; it is only when we have lived in the material to the exclusion of the soul that it becomes a beggar, and Jesus so illustrated the condi-

tion of that soul when it came to dissolution, or the \_\_\_\_\_  
called death. I would say to you that death is no part of the Divine  
plan. We would never pass thru that change called death, and which  
is the greatest \_\_\_\_\_ of man's existence if we had observed the  
Divine Law, and had cultivated th I-am, the Christ Mind in us.  
We would escape this breaking up between the Spirit and the Soul,  
the mind of flesh. This temporal mind and the Spiritual mind would  
be joined in one perfect mind, and that perfect mind would continue  
to keep the body without a break. This then is the overcoming of

that last enemy, and we are all looking forward to that. None of us are striving to die. We are in every way escaping the death of the man. The death of the man is entering into a new phase of consciousness. As I say, there is a break between the temporal - the mind of the flesh (it not drawing its sustenance from the one spiritual source loses its activity) ~~and~~ it separates itself and creates a gulf of consciousness between the Spiritual and the material; it says: "Oh, that is all right to talk about Spiritual things, but I am satisfied in my own mind that the temporal things give the

swift returns. I do not see that spiritually minded people have ~~any more~~ any more happiness than we do, and I guess I will just be sure of a bird in the hand and cling to my money and houses and lands and I will cultivate the things that give the pleasures of the world." So the rich man builds up his world; but there is an end to that. It makes no difference what money and lands he has that give the pleasures of the world; sooner or later that comes to an end. What does that man have? He has only the things <sup>of</sup> his world to take with him. If he has given himself to the pleasures of the table, - the eating

and drinking - he has that phase of consciousness to deal with. If he has given himself to selfish grasping of money and the things that give pleasure in that direction, he has that state of consciousness to deal with. We find ourselves where we leave off in the realm behind the scenes - that bourne from which no traveler returns - we find ourselves there just where we leave off here. And I would say that there is no such thing as there and here in mind - it is all Here. All of the people that have disappeared from this temporal realm are here; but in what condition are they here. Why, they are e

here in the condition of the rich man and the poor man if the mind has been cultivating the idea of the temporal side being all. Now, we have in our experience as men and women had many changes and we have passed thru many phases of consciousness. We all love life, and we have in some of these experiences lived on the spiritual side. Consequently we have developed a spiritual line of thinking. We have accumulated in our consciousness spiritual thoughts, and these Spiritual thoughts have made up a Spiritual mind. On the other hand, we have accumulated material thoughts; so we have within us this

Lazarus altho we may not be conscious of it. Every man, then, has his soul which relates him to the spiritual side of his being, and when dissolution arrives the two lines of thought begin to separate. Like the combination in the chemists laboratory, the material goes to itself and the gaseous goes to itself, and the solids to themselves. Here we have a picture of the man who has left his body. He has left the envelope in which he had accumulated and held these different elements. They fall apart and what is the condition then of that man? Well, the spiritual soul goes into the spiritual

state of consciousness - that is Lazarus. That is the soul that in the temporal life, the flesh life, has been starved. But now it comes to its own. Abraham in the Mosaic dispensation represents the man who has faith in God, and ~~where~~ if we get back into the original idea of the name we would find that it was borrowed from the Hindu religion and means Brahm. When the Spiritual soul, or ~~te~~ the consciousness of the reality of Spirit and Spiritual things leaves the body it naturally goes ~~in~~ to the place in which Brahm, or the great soul of God, our Father, is, and rests in his bosom,

while the temporal side goes to another place; its thoughts are permanent in the mind of temporal things, and temporal things seek a temporal avenue. That man was not regenerated; he did not work over his thoughts and place them in right relation, but found himself as he left his body in the same condition in the same condition that he was when he was in that body, and if there was a craving for anything it was still there. It is like the man who drinks over night and wakes up in the morning with a thirst. The one thing that will satisfy that thirst is something of a material

character. Supposing that that something is not there, what is the result? A burning fever. That is exactly the condition in which the temporal side of the soul finds itself when it shuffles off this mortal coil. There is no place in which it can receive its material satisfaction. It has left that realm and the mind is craving for that satisfaction, and that is the illustration which Jesus gives of the soul - the sense soul - trying to satisfy itself without a vehicle thru which to reach that satisfaction. There is no material thing after the soul has left its material

surroundings, but it still has the mind without the source of satisfaction. So it is pictured here as in ~~xx~~ a flame of fire, and it calls upon its Spiritual side, or thoughts of the opposite side of this character, to give it just a drop of satisfaction, a drop of water. But the Spiritual said: "You had your satisfaction in temporal experiences in the earth consciousness when we were together in the body, and now I am going to get my good things, and there is a great gulf here between us." You cannot merge without a central idea, like the Spiritual mind of the

I-am. You cannot blend and merge your two states of consciousness without that center, without a blending medium, and that is what the Christ regeneration is. If these two states of consciousness had been brought together in the body during the life of that man, there would have been no separation. But now there is a separation, and it might be well for us to understand just what the condition is in which we will find ourselves. This state of mind in which the rich man found himself is typified in the various religions. In the Catholic religion, we have purgatory in which the

soul is in a state of trial; it is fit for neither Heaven nor Hell.

In the Hindu we have the same place designated as D \_\_\_\_\_

The soul is in a state where it is constantly striving and seeking for something, but there is no satisfaction to be gained in that realm. It is a flame of desire in the consciousness without any means of satisfying it, and what is the result? Why, a pruning out of these thoughts; a destruction of the thought world in which that soul exists. And this is the purification that Jesus referred to; this is the hell-fire that continues from day to day until

the man is purified and then another life is lived. The soul, after it has gained a certain education - (not really an education, but has gone thru under the Law a certain preparation for the next incarnation) - comes again into the body and thru it has another trial. Now, these trials continue until the man either awakens to his true estate and becomes one with the Christ, or he throws thru his adverse thinking in his soul and body so far apart that they never get together. Now, there is a third element that we find dealt with here ~~xanaxtak~~ in this allegory, and that is

senses

~~brothers~~

his five ~~senses~~ which the rich man wanted Lazarus to inform about his

The five brothers.

condition. These are the five senses. These five-sense man is not

an evil; he is simply the vehicle thru which the soul functions.

That five-sense man goes with the body, and yet it has a conscious-

ness of its own - seeing, tasting, smelling, feeling, hearing -

they each have a certain consciousness; what becomes of that con-

sciousness when he leaves the body? It still endures, but it is

a vague, ignorant, astral consciousness; it is the ghost that

people see; it has no identity of its own; it must be educated.

It floats about in the atmosphere as a kind of that picture. Now, this consciousness is dealt with here and Jesus calls attention to it as that in the man which must be awakened to the Truth of Spiritual qualities. The soul on its temporal side wanted to perpetuate the five-sense man because it was thru that five-sense man that he had been getting his satisfaction, and he said to the higher principle the spiritual soul: "Go to my five brothers - go to the five-sense man and tell him about this condition." But the soul said: "No." For your senses only receive the law and the profits; they will not

listen to one risen from the dead. Now, the Law and the Prophets in scripture ~~are~~ represent - the law represents the intellectual understanding of Truth, and the prophets represent the Spiritual understanding of Truth. The intellectual understanding of Truth was given in a written law; it was: "Thou shalt not"; and the Spiritual understanding was given by the prophets, telling what would come to pass thru the action of sinful people. Now, these two states of information are open to the five-sense man; he must be educated thru these avenues. That is the statement of the law as given by

Jesus. And he can receive his education only in this way. We think that the senses are the avenues thru phenominal experience, but they are not. You never got any Truth into your five-sense consciousness thru temporal experience; you may think you do, but it all comes thru a state of mind; a state of mind that you set up when you think about the condition which that state of mind represents. It is thought, then; and thought solves the whole problem. So when you think about your body you must think about it in the light of the Law and the Prophets. It is a fact that we must lay

down laws for our bodies, and we must see that that law is carried out. Here is the Law and the Prophets, and we know that we get results from every statement that we make for our temporal man. If you hold that your sight is Spiritual, you will get a clearer understanding of Spiritual~~t~~ things; in other words, your sight will become illuminated with the Spiritual sight, and you will see better too. If you hold that your hearing is Spiritual, the sense side of your consciousness will fall away and let in the Spiritual, and you will find that you can hear as you never heard before;

you can hear unutterable things; you can hear with your mind. And so with everyone of these five brothers, these ~~senses~~; when they are educated under the law they come into their own; but if you give them over to the keeping of that man who thinks he is rich in worldly things, rich in the temporal, he will fall short of the real understanding. He is not educated by the law and the prophets. Now, summing up the whole situation we find that it is necessary that we here and now take up a Spiritual education for our man - that the rich man and the poor man in us shall be balanced; that

this soul which is willing and at the door - that is, the door of consciousness - calling and begging for the crumbs that fall from the table shall be fed. Feeding the soul with crumbs represents that withholding of the full <sup>love</sup> ~~life~~ of substance and life which we are constantly carrying out in our lives. We are not ~~xxx~~ supplying our souls with the food which they require unless we daily worship God; unless we give as much attention at least to the spiritual side of our being as we do to the temporal. People think that if they give half an hour- or some even an hour to silent meditation

and prayer that they are giving <sup>God</sup> a great deal of their time and attention; but how much time do you give to the temporal things? Do you give say 15 or 16 hours to temporal things and half an hour to Spiritual? What is the result? You build up the man of sense; he becomes rich with the thoughts that pertain to the material world, and the soul becomes a beggar; it is starved. And the result is a man who is one-sided; a man of large sense consciousness; a man who knows a great deal about the world and worldly things, and very little about Spirit and Spiritual things. There is only

one end for that man; there is a \_\_\_\_\_ awaiting him. And do we want to continue in this \_\_\_\_\_ condition? Certainly not. We want to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. He showed us the only way out, and that was, start the overcoming of the war between the Spirit and the body; the unifying of the rich man and the poor man in us; the giving of the soul an opportunity to express itself; the recognition that we have a soul. The majority of people have no consciousness of a soul; they do not know what the emotions of the soul are; they do not feel the movement of the soul; just to

that extent are you starving your soul, and there will be a result to that starvation. But you can escape. You can blend the soul and the body, making one perfect man, thru a union in Christ of the Rich Man and Lazarus.