

Sabbath School. BIBLE LESSONS. Lesson 7.—May 15. Luke 16: 19-31. RICH MAN AND LAZARUS. GOLDEN TEXT. The rich man is driven away in his wickedness, but the righteous hath hope in death.—Prov. 14: 22.

of the race. He is a Jew, and cherishes his Jewish confidence. We are dealing with a parable, and must draw no mistaken inferences as to the relations and intercourse of the departed. As in other parables, dialogue brings out vividly the truths sought to be enforced.—Pity me! Abraham is appealed to as under God, caring for and ready to succor his children.—Send Lazarus. The rich man has not forgotten his old-time elevation above Lazarus: he has forgotten that in their former state he established no claim to the poor man's gratitude. The request brings forcibly to the reader's mind how recklessly his opportunity was thrown away. Christ, in the person of Lazarus, had been hungry, destitute, wretched, and had not been ministered to by the rich man (Matt. 25: 45). Mark how the idea of reciprocal service in the kingdom of God pervades the Scriptures.—Dip the tip of his finger in water, and thus let the drops fall upon his tongue. So slight a boon asked and refused, shows the extremity to which he was reduced. How keen and bitter must be his memories of their former respective conditions of selfish luxury and unheeded suffering! Had he made Lazarus his friend, he would have had one to welcome him at the heavenly gate: now he dares only ask for a drop of water from him for his burning tongue.—In anguish. The imagery of hell is taken from Gehenna, where fires kept perpetually burning symbolize the torments of the lost.

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