WHAT THE RICH MAN NEVER UNDERSTOOD

[31] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. [32] Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. [33] And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left.

MATTHEW 25:31-33 ESV

[1] Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, [2] and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

HEBREWS 6:1-2 ESV

[19] "There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. [20] And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, [21] who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. [22] The poor man died and

was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, [23] and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. [24] And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ [25] But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. [26] And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ [27] And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house [28] for I have five brothers so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ [29] But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ [30] And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ [31] He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”

LUKE 16:19-31 ESV

[9] So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. [10] For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:9-10 ESV

MY LIFE WILL BE EVALUATED IN THE END. THEREFORE, TODAY:

1. I DECIDE WHERE I WILL SPEND **ETERNITY**, AND I DO NOT PUT OFF THAT DECISION

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment,

HEBREWS 9:27 ESV

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

JOHN 14:6 ESV

They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might,

2 THESSALONIANS 1:9 ESV

“Hell is the false identity we freely choose, carried into eternity. The rich man remains unnamed in the story because his wealth became his entire identity. Remove his riches, and nothing of who he truly was remains.”

—TIM KELLER

MY LIFE WILL BE EVALUATED IN THE END.
THEREFORE, TODAY:

2. I PREPARE TO GIVE AN ACCOUNT, AND I DO NOT WALK ALONE

So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

ROMANS 14:12 ESV

SIX VIEWS ON HELL

View	Claim	Biblical Response
1. Naturalism	Only matter exists. There is no soul and no eternity: consciousness ends with the body, and there is no future judgment.	"And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). "So then each of us shall give account of himself to God" (Romans 14:12). If no one is held accountable, no life is morally distinct from another.
2. Universalism	In the end, all or nearly all will be saved. Religions are simply different paths leading to the same God.	"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). "Nor is there salvation in any other" (Acts 4:12). "For if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain" (Galatians 2:21): if everyone arrives at the same destination, the Cross was unnecessary.

3. Reincarnation	The soul returns in successive lifetimes until its moral debt is repaid.	One single life and one single judgment: "appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). Destiny is not a process; it is permanently fixed: "between us and you there is a great gulf fixed" (Luke 16:26). And it is immediate: "Today you will be with Me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43).
4. Annihilationism	Those who reject Christ are ultimately destroyed and cease to exist. Punishment is real, but not eternal.	Conscious: "I am tormented in this flame" (Luke 16:24). Matthew 25:46 uses the exact same Greek word for both destinies: everlasting punishment and eternal life. "Where 'Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched'" (Mark 9:48).
5. Purgatory	Believers who die without being fully sanctified undergo a state of purification before entering heaven.	No canonical scripture teaches this; its foundation rests on 2 Maccabees 12:45. Christ did not say "It is almost finished, " but "It is finished!" (John 19:30). "For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified" (Hebrews 10:14). "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1).
6. The Teaching of Jesus	Not a sixth opinion, but the divine standard by which all five views are judged.	"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away" (Matthew 24:35). "The word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day" (John 12:48). "For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son" (John 5:22).

[12] At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. [2] And many of those who sleep in the dust

of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. [3] And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

DANIEL 12:1-3 ESV

[12] And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. [13] And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. [14] Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. [15] And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

REVELATION 20:12-15 ESV

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.’

REVELATION 2:17 ESV

[42] For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was

thirsty and you gave me no drink, [43] I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.

MATTHEW 25:42-43 ESV

Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’

MATTHEW 25:44 ESV

Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?

MATTHEW 25:37 ESV

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

1 JOHN 2:1 ESV

MY LIFE WILL BE EVALUATED IN THE END.
THEREFORE, TODAY:

3. I SEEK TO KNOW HIM MORE, AND I DO NOT KEEP HIM TO MYSELF

[27] And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to

my father's house [28] for I have five brothers so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ [29] But Abraham said, They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.

LUKE 16:27-29 ESV

[44] The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. [45] Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, [46] who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

MATTHEW 13:44-46 ESV

“Identity never changes through fear. Being frightened, amazed, impressed, or inspired does not change anyone.”

— TIM KELLER

“When eschatology is preached poorly, it produces fear; when it is preached well, it produces faith.”

— JOHN BEVERE

[10] Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. [11] Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their

iniquities.

ISAIAH 53:10-11 ESV

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 3:8 ESV