

In today's Gospel, Luke 16:19-31, Jesus Christ shares with us a parable about a rich man and a poor man named Lazarus. The rich man would pass by Lazarus daily and never took notice that he was in need to offer anything from his own table. As the Gospel tells us, when both men died, poor man Lazarus was carried to the bosom of Abraham, that is, heaven, while the rich man was found in Hades suffering. Although the rich man called out to Father Abraham for mercy, it was too late.

Dearest ones, how many times do we pass by someone in need? Whether they are poor, sick, lonely, or in distress? Do we pause and ask how we can help them? The parable today demonstrates that we must take notice of our neighbor who may be afflicted. See, it isn't either poverty or riches that made the rich man suffer in Hades, or Lazarus being in heaven. But rather, it was that the rich man didn't take notice of someone in need to help him, and that Lazarus in humility and faith in God endured the trials in his life.

We all can find ourselves at different points in our lives relating to the rich man or to poor man Lazarus. How should we react in either case? Let us learn from this parable that if we are able to help like the rich man that we do so, and if we are suffering like the poor man Lazarus to do so with humility and faith in God.

Dearest ones don't let it be too late. May we pray always to our loving God for guidance and strength in our lives, so that all honor, worship, glory and thanksgiving is given to Him; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever, amen.