A Great Chasm Fixed
Luke 16:19-31

Introduction
A. Tossing a diamond necklace while leaning over ship railing.
   1. Ocean is eternity
   2. People are on vessel of life
   3. Diamond is their soul
   4. Not knowing Christ is risking dying and be eternally lost
B. Pharisees’ religion was OUTWARD.
   1. Present choices determine eternal destiny
   2. Three lessons to take to heart
1. There are 2 and only 2 eternal destinies.
   A. Heaven
   B. Hell
      1. Place of weeping and gnashing of teeth (Matt. 25:30)
      2. Place where worm doesn’t die, fire not quenched (Isaiah 66:24)
C. Three views that must be rejected
   1. UNIVERSALISM – everyone will be saved
   2. ANNIHILATIONISM – unrepentant sinner ceases to exist
   3. PURGATORY – intermediate state where sinner has sin purged before entering heaven
2. The basis for a person’s eternal destiny is fixed in present life.
   A. The fact of a fixed destiny: A Great Chasm Fixed (16:26)
      1. No second chance after death (Heb. 9:27)
      2. Unbelievers at death go to place of conscious torment awaiting the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev. 20:11-15)
      1. Rich man’s problem: No repentance for squandering riches on self
         a. Repentance: God’s Word leads a person to repentance.
         b. Repentance: a moral issue, not an intellectual one
3. Deception about eternal destiny by present outward appearances.
   A. Humanly speaking:
      1. Rich man – successful
      2. Lazarus – a loser
   B. Deception: pursuing financial success at the expense of your soul

Conclusion
A. You can’t live for selfish pleasure, disobeying God’s Word, and expect to live with God in heaven at death.
B. Repentance of sin, living in obedience to Christ leads to eternal life no matter what earthly circumstances are.