Things in Hell Needed in the Church
Luke 16:19-31

Introduction:
A. Have you ever thought about what is most needed in the church today?
B. Have you ever thought that the church might need things in hell?
C. Text illustrates some things in hell badly needed in the church:

Discussion:
I. An Awareness Of The Reality Of Hell. (v. 23,24).
B. It is severe. (v. 24; cf. Mk. 9:43-48; Matt. 10:28; Heb. 10:26-29; Matt. 25:30, 46)
C. It is final. (v. 26).

II. An Understanding Of The Vanity Of Riches (v. 25).
A. Useless beyond this life. (v. 24; cf. 1 Tim. 6:7,8).
B. Can be a blessing in this life. (1 Tim. 6:17-20; 3 Jno. 2)
C. Can be a curse in this life and beyond.
   1. If we trust them to the point of feeling no need for spiritual wealth. (Rev. 3:17).
   2. If we respect them to the point of favoritism. (Jas. 2:1-10)
   3. If we covet them to the point of:
      a. Stealing (Eph. 4:28).
      b. Freeloading (Acts 20:33, 34; 2 Thess. 3:8-10).
   4. If we seek them to point workaholism. (cf. Matt. 6:33).
   5. If we spend them to the point of prodigality. (Luke 15:13,14)

III. A Recognition Of The Folly Of Pride. (vs. 19-21,24).
A. Can exalt ourselves now and be humbled then.
B. Or can humble ourselves now and be exalted then. (Matt. 23:12)

IV. A Real Concern For The Lost. (v. 27,28).
A. Rich man now concerned about lost brother, but too late.
B. How concerned are we about people who have not obeyed the gospel?
   1. Do we believe they are lost?
   2. Do we care that they are lost?

V. An Appreciation Of The Value Of The Written Word Of God. (v. 29-31).
A. Produce faith in hearts. (Rom. 10:6-8, 17)

Conclusion:
A. Don't wait until in hell to wake up to these things!
B. Don't wait until in hell to realize you need to obey the gospel.