Chinese

• 光说不练

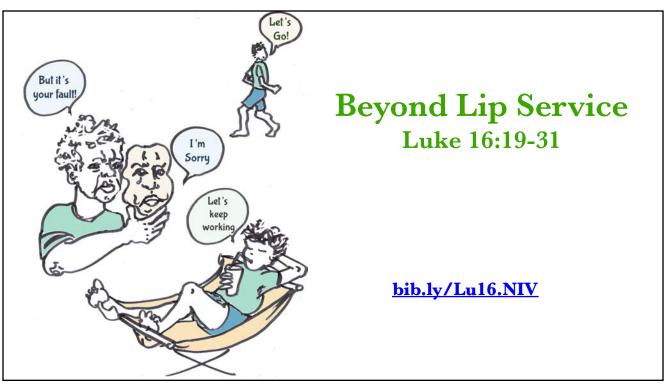
Yoruba

- awawi asan 'empty words'
- oro l'ori ahon literally translates as 'words on the tongue'
- oro asoje roughly 'words spoken and eaten' English

• lip service: serving with lips only

Examples?

How might we be doing this with God??



In Luke: Pay attention to the <u>audience</u> of Jesus' teaching 16:14: The **Pharisees, who loved money**, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus.... Jesus said to them... The focus of this story is on the rich man

	Luke 16:19-31	bib.ly/Lu16.NIV
19 - 21		
22-23		
24-26		
27-31		

Luke 16:19-21

"There was a **rich man** who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. At his gate was laid a beggar named **Lazarus**, covered with sores and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

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Luke 16:22-23

"The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. In <u>Hades</u>, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.

Hades = place of interim judgment for the dead (Hell is final judgment)

Luke 16:24-26

"So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.' "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'

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Luke 16:27-31

"He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

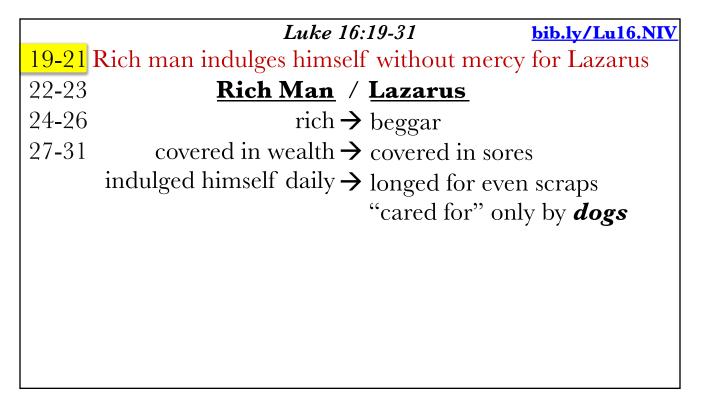
'Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'

"No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

"He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.""

Luke 16:19-21

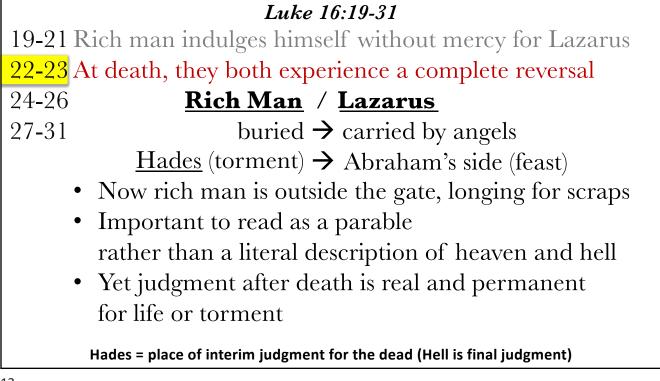
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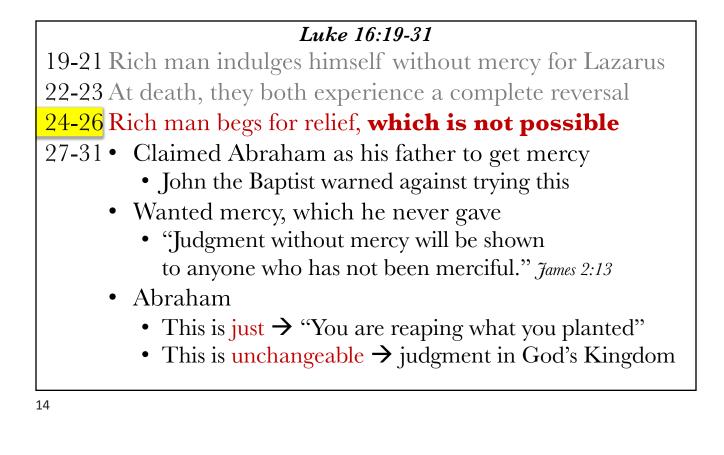
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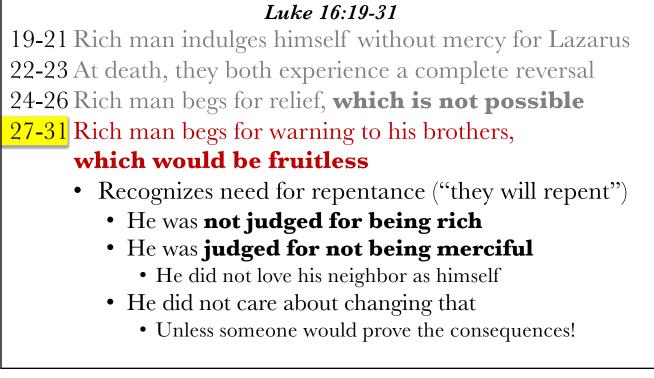
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Luke 16:19-31

19-21 Rich man indulges himself without mercy for Lazarus
22-23 At death, they both experience a complete reversal
24-26 Rich man begs for relief, which is not possible
27-31 Rich man begs for warning to his brothers,
which would be fruitless

- Rich man claimed he lacked proof
 - "It wasn't my fault!" \rightarrow he still didn't repent
- Abraham: lack of proof is not the problem
 - The rich man rejected what he knew of God
 - "The concrete expression of his rejection of God's will was his neglect of the poor man at his gate."

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The Big Idea

Saving faith in Jesus Christ

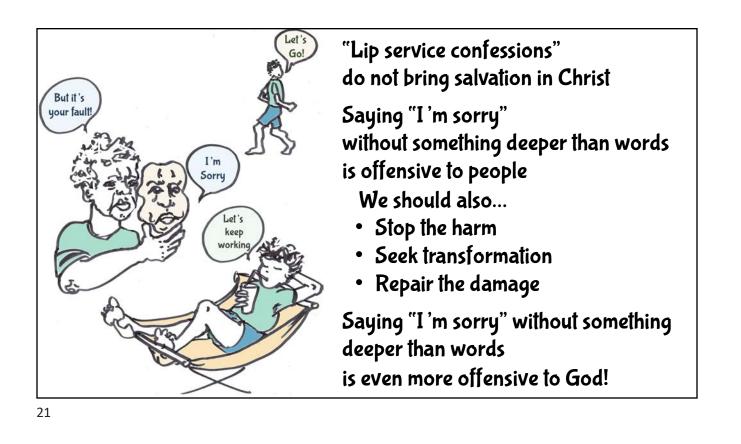
includes genuine repentance to the ways of God

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Lip service

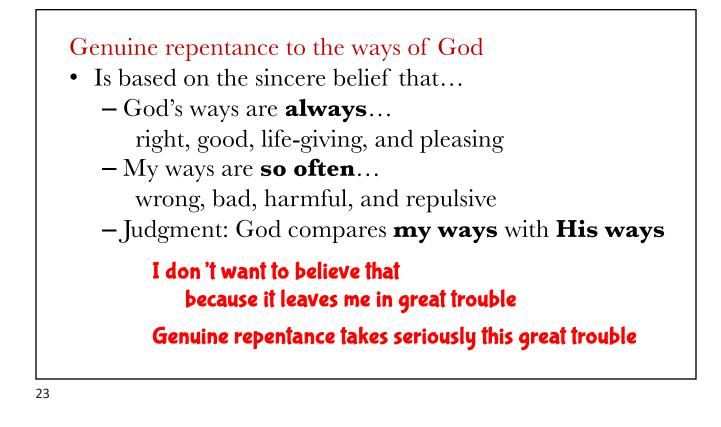
- Serving with lips only
- An insincere expression of friendship, support, belief, ...
- When our words are not an accurate expression of our heart or will or actions

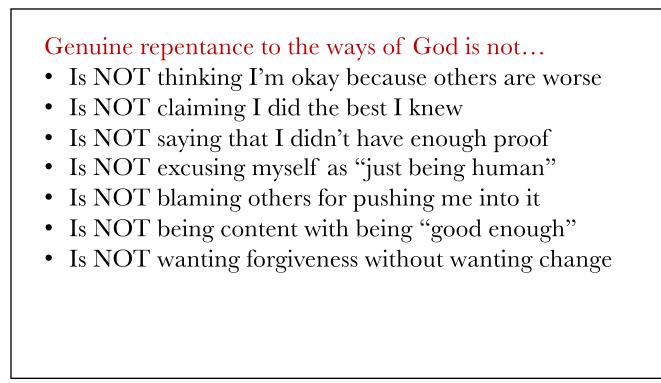




Saving faith in Jesus Christ

includes genuine repentance to the ways of God





Genuine repentance to the ways of God

- Includes these steps
 - **Confess**: genuine agreement with these 2 things
 - 1. God's ways are always right, good, life-giving, and pleasing
 - 2. My ways are so often wrong, bad, harmful, and repulsive
 - The first step is to admit this awful situation!
 - This doesn't stop once someone becomes a Christian

"What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?" *Romans* 7:24

Genuine repentance to the ways of God

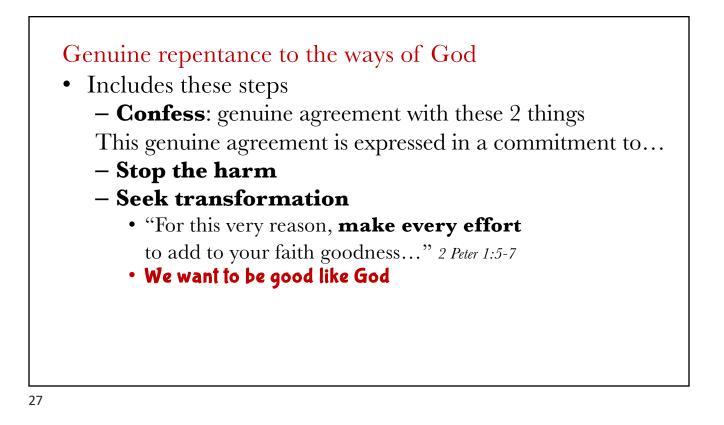
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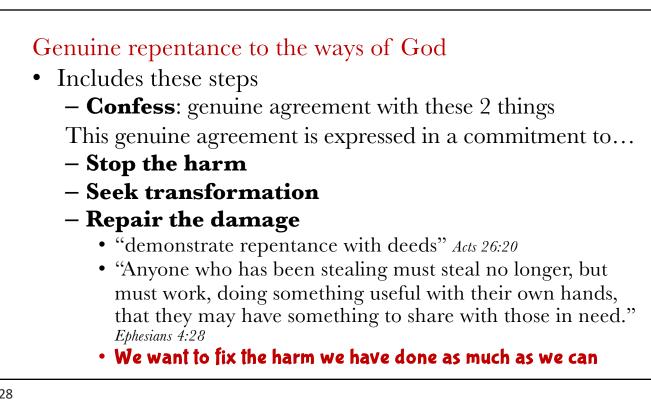
This genuine agreement is expressed in a commitment to...

- Stop the harm

• Jesus said, "If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell." *Matthew 5:29*

• We want to stop causing harm





Genuine repentance to the ways of God

- Includes these steps
 - Confess our wrong
 - Stop the harm
 - Seek transformation
 - Repair the damage

Yet we always do this only partially and imperfectly, and that should troubles us!

So our genuine repentance can never save us because it is also affected by our sin!

"What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?" *Romans 7:24*

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Genuine repentance to the ways of God Genuine (and imperfect) repentance IN JESUS leads to **forgiveness** and **transformation**

"Thanks be to **God**, who delivers me through **Jesus Christ our Lord**!" *Romans 7:25*

"He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world." *1 John 2:2* "Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, <u>we shall be like</u> <u>him. for we shall see him as he is</u>." *1 John 3:2* So why struggle to do imperfectly over a lifetime what God will do perfectly in a moment?

- "All who have this hope in him **purify themselves**, just as he is pure." *1 John 3:3*

By its nature, genuine hope begins the journey to grow into that hope

By its nature, genuine repentance begins the journey

- to stop the harm
- to seek transformation
- to repair the damage

The Big Idea

Saving faith in Jesus Christ

includes genuine repentance to the ways of God which brings full forgiveness and the promise of complete transformation in Christ

A Christian View of Social Action

- Every human organization is less good than God

 Systemic injustice: intentions and/or effects don't match God's justice (whether by race, ethnicity, sex, age, ...)
- Genuine repentance seeks God's ways today wherever His ways are not being followed
 - Confession / Stop the harm /
 Seek transformation / Repair the damage
- Our full hope is for the new heaven and new earth where God's ways will be followed perfectly
- Whoever has this hope pursues His will on earth today

