



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 29th, 2020

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

The Prelude	Prepare your heart for worship
The Call to Worship	Chris Kimbrell
Baptist Hymnal No. 88	"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"
The Prayer of Confession and Praise	Cody Wallace
Baptist Hymnal No. 96	"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"
Baptist Hymnal No. 89	"O Come All Ye Faithful"
The Reading of the Word — <i>Philippians 1:3-30</i>	Hal Pritchard
Trinity Hymnal No. 154	"As With Gladness, Men of Old"
The Pastoral Prayer	Pastor Winn
The Sermon — "The Refiner's Fire" (<i>1 Kings 17:8-24</i>)	Ben Rogers
A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached	
Baptist Hymnal No. 95	"Go Tell it on the Mountain"
The Benediction	Hal Pritchard
The Postlude	

EVENING WORSHIP

The Prelude	Prepare your heart for worship
Baptist Hymnal No. 76	"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Baptist Hymnal No. 113	"We Three Kings"
The Pastoral Prayer	Pastor Winn
The Sermon — "Yahweh's Response" (<i>Ezekiel 9</i>)	Hal Pritchard
A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached	
Baptist Hymnal No. 98	"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"
The Benediction	Pastor Winn
The Postlude	



COMMENTARY

C. H. Spurgeon

Our first observation will be that the case of this woman of Sarepta is an instance of Divine Election. We are not now inventing anything of our own. We have the warrant of the great Apostle and High Priest of our profession for this assertion, for when he went to Nazareth and opened the book and preached, did he not himself say, "Many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land; but unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a city of Sidon, unto a woman that was a widow"? Election passed over all the poor widows of Israel who might have been expected, as belonging to God's covenant people, to be first provided for in the day of scant, and it lighted in sovereignty upon a heathen, a woman living in a country which had been accursed of God, and given over aforetime to the sword of the seed of Jacob. Election, I say, passed over all the likeliest ones, and pitched upon her who seemed to be beyond the verge of hope, ordaining in mercy that she, entertaining the prophet, should be saved thereby. Surely, brethren, we have here an instance of the sovereignty of electing love. If grace must go to Sidon for its object, why must it select a widow? She seemed to be the least likely person to answer the design of the decree, namely, the sustenance of the prophet. Were there not princes in Sidon with secret stores of food? Were there not merchants who had passed over the salt sea and knew where grain was to be found? Were there not men of understanding who could by their conversation

cheer the prophet's lonely hours? Nay, but though they be great or wise, or wealthy, God bids his chariot downward roll away from the lofty towers of nobles to the humble cottage of the poorest in all Sidonia's dominions, and a poor widow woman becomes the object of special grace. Here is an illustrious instance of distinguishing grace, yet not such a striking one as mine, nor such a remarkable case as yours to you. I seem as if I can understand God's having chosen you, but I shall never cease to wonder that he hath elected me.

"How many hearts thou mightst have had
More innocent than mine!
How many souls more worthy far
Of that pure touch of thine!

Ah, grace! into unlikeliest hearts
It is thy boast to come;
The glory of thy light to find
In darkest spots a home."

The choice is in every case made by the supreme will of Jehovah, and is not ordered according to the will of man, nor the will of the flesh, nor blood, nor birth. It is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but he who ruleth all things according to his own good pleasure, giveth as he wills, and withholdeth as he pleases; and who shall say unto him, "What doest thou?"



STUDY AID

