



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP
September 10th, 2023

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship

The Call to Worship Daniel Ranck

Hymn "O Worship the King"

The Prayer of Confession and Praise Seth Lirette

Hymn "Lead On O King Eternal"

Hymn "A Child of the King"

The Reading of the Word — *Psalm 55:1-23* Dirk de Waal

Hymn "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

The Sermon — *"Introduction to the Parable" (Luke 16:19-31)* Pastor Winn

A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached

Hymn "Softly and Tenderly"

The Benediction Dirk de Waal

The Postlude

EVENING WORSHIP

The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship

Hymn "All Creatures of Our God and King"

Hymn "Come Thou Almighty King"

Prayer

The Sermon — *"The Heart of Christian Service" (Exodus 35:1-36:7)* Dirk de Waal

Hymn "Have Thine Own Way Lord"

The Benediction

The Postlude



COMMENTARY

Matthew Henry

The tendency of the gospel of Christ is both to reconcile us to poverty and affliction and to arm us against temptations to worldliness and sensuality. Now this parable, by drawing the curtain, and letting us see what will be the end of both in the other world, goes very far in prosecuting those two great intentions. This parable is not like Christ's other parables... here the spiritual things themselves are represented in a narrative or description of the different state of good and bad in this world and the other. Yet we need not call it a history of a particular occurrence, but it is matter of fact that is true every day, that poor godly people, whom men neglect and trample upon, die away out of their miseries, and go to heavenly bliss and joy, which is made the more pleasant to them by their preceding sorrows; and that rich epicures, who live in luxury, and are unmerciful to the poor, die, and go into a state of insupportable torment, which is the more grievous and terrible to them because of the sensual lives they lived: and that there is no gaining any relief from their torments...The discourse indeed between Abraham and the rich man is only an illustration of the description, to make it the more affecting. Our Savior came to bring us acquainted with another world, and to show us the reference which this world has to that; and here is does it. In this description we may observe, I. The different condition of a wicked rich man, and a godly poor man, in this world. We know that as some of late, so the Jews of old, were ready to make prosperity one of the marks of a true church, of a good man and a favorite of heaven, so that they could hardly have any favorable thoughts of a poor man. This mistake Christ set himself to correct, and here very fully, where we have, 1. A wicked man, and one that will be forever miserable, in the height of prosperity. Now we are told concerning this rich man, (1.) That he was clothed in purple and fine linen, and that was his adorning. He had fine

linen for pleasure, and clean, no doubt, every day; night-linen, and day-linen. He had purple for state, for that was the wear of princes. (2.) He fared deliciously and sumptuously every day. His table was furnished with all the varieties and dainties that nature and art could supply; his side-table richly adorned with plate; his servants, who waited at table, in rich liveries; and the guests at his table, no doubt, such as he thought graced it. Well, and what harm was there in all this? It is no sin to be rich, no sin to wear purple and fine linen, nor to keep a plentiful table, if a man's estate will afford it. Nor are we told that he got his estate by fraud, oppression, or extortion, no, nor that he was drunk, or made others drunk; but, [1.] Christ would hereby show that a man may have a great deal of the wealth, and pomp, and pleasure of this world, and yet lie and perish forever under God's wrath and curse. We cannot infer from men's living great either that God loves them in giving them so much, or that they love God for giving them so much; happiness consists not in these things. [2.] That plenty and pleasure are a very dangerous and to many a fatal temptation to luxury, and sensuality, and forgetfulness of God and another world. This man might have been happy if he had not had great possessions and enjoyments. [3.] That the indulgence of the body, and the ease and pleasure of that, are the ruin of many a soul, and the interests of it. It is true, eating good meat and wearing good clothes are lawful; but it is true that they often become the food and fuel of pride and luxury, and so turn into sin to us. [4.] That feasting ourselves and our friends, and, at the same time, forgetting the distresses of the poor and afflicted, are very provoking to God and damning to the soul. The sin of this rich man was not so much his dress or his diet, but his providing only for himself.



RESPONSIBILITIES

Today's Nursery Volunteers

September 10th
<i>Morning</i> Ashley Lirette & Sylvie Jones
<i>Evening/Afternoon</i> Dumi Thakkar & Lana Wakefield
<i>Wednesday - September 13th</i> Laurie Price & Ashley Lirette

Today's Sound Operator - Jason Price



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEN'S BOOK STUDY

The Men's Book Study will meet this Saturday, September 16th. Breakfast and fellowship begins at 7 am with the study to follow.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

We plan to have a new members class beginning this month if there is enough interest. This class gives visitors information about GBC so they can make a prayerful decision to see if this is where God would have them worship and serve. The class will meet at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. If you desire to participate, please speak with Pastor Thomas or one of our interns, Dirk or Prashant.

HOSPITALITY MEAL

Excluding the first Sunday of the month, we offer a visitor hospitality meal following our morning worship. If you are visiting with us today, you are invited to stay and have lunch. We would enjoy getting to fellowship together.

