



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
AT CASTLEWOODS

ORDER OF WORSHIP
February 19th, 2023

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship

The Call to Worship Chris Kimbrell

Hymn "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

The Prayer of Confession and Praise Seth Lirette

Hymn "Rock of Ages"

Hymn "The Church's One Foundation"

The Reading of the Word — *Proverbs 8:1-21* Hal Pritchard

Hymn "He Lifted Me"

The Sermon — *"The Singleness of the Eye" (Matthew 6:22-23)* Pastor Winn

A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached

Hymn "Christ the Solid Rock"

The Benediction Hal Pritchard

The Postlude

EVENING WORSHIP

The Prelude Prepare your heart for worship

Hymn "Give to Our God Immortal Praise"

Hymn "Take Time to be Holy"

Prayer

The Sermon — *"Who is Our God?" (Exodus 3)* Dirk de Waal

Hymn "Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting"

The Benediction

The Postlude



COMMENTARY

R.C. Sproul

Christ's teaching is profoundly counter-cultural on many occasions, not in the sense that He calls us to despise all state authorities, but in the sense that His instruction goes completely against the natural, sinful inclinations of mankind. Jesus gives us this very kind of teaching in Matthew 6:19–24. The Lord's Sermon on the Mount has thus far emphasized our need to serve God with whole-hearted devotion. Only those who are committed to Jesus in heart, soul, and mind can live the life depicted in this sermon, from enduring persecution for righteousness' sake (5:10) to being so focused on our Creator that we care not if others ever notice our fervent piety (6:1–18). The love of money "competes" with the Lord for our allegiance in the United States today. We are surrounded by a culture that worships goods, which calls us to sacrifice our families and our faith on the altar of bigger and better homes, cars, and so on. As such, Christ's words in today's passage have a special bearing upon us. In the first place, striving after treasures on earth is foolish because these things do not last (vv. 19–21). Even if not destroyed by vermin, earthly goods can be stolen, and we cannot take them with us when we die. Only treasures in heaven, which we earn by our good deeds done before the Father, endure (1 Cor. 3:10–15). Our

good works do not save us, but they are graciously given to us by God in order that we might have greater blessings in heaven. Our Savior's warning against the love of money brackets His teaching on good eyes and bad ones (Matt. 6:22–23). This shows us that an unhealthy eye, one full of darkness, is a metaphor for an attitude of greed and covetousness. In fact, in Jesus' day, the rabbis described those who love money more than God as those with bad eyes. A healthy eye would then refer to one who is generous with his resources. Such persons reflect the Lord's own generosity and have light. By the Holy Spirit they see rightly and follow the straight path of righteousness. Driving home His point that we must serve the Father alone, Christ tells us we "cannot serve God and money" (v. 24). If we try to follow both, we can do justice to neither. In fact, if we try to serve both, we are not serving God at all.

Coram Deo: Money itself is not evil, for it is possible to be wealthy and serve God. However, it is all too easy for us to think we are serving God when we are really serving the "stuff" of this world. The Lord gives us possessions to enjoy, but the first and best of all that we own belongs to Him. Make sure that you are offering up the first and best of all you have and not giving unto God only after you have first blessed yourself.



RESPONSIBILITIES

Today's Nursery Volunteers

February 19th
<i>Morning</i> Elise de Waal & Mary Hunter Sharp
<i>Evening/Afternoon</i> Bunny Finch & Katherine Ranck
<i>Wednesday - February 22nd</i> Bridgette Kimbrell & Lana Wakefield

Today's Sound Operator - John Ingram



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Preschool and Children's Choir will meet this afternoon.

SERIES IN EXODUS

We will continue tonight the sermon series going through the book of Exodus. All are encouraged to attend as Hal Pritchard, Dirk de Waal, and Seth Lirette rotate each week leading us through this study of this foundational book of the Old Testament and God's word.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

The new members class will begin again starting March 5th during the Sunday School hour, led by Hal Pritchard. If you have any questions or would like to participate, see Hal or Pastor Thomas.

