

## **Privileged to Serve**

### *Morning Worship*

Announcements: Julius Cook  
Song Leader: Chad Futrell  
Opening Prayer: Barry Hatcher  
Lord's Table:  
Presiding: Tyler Christian  
Assisting: Sibio Farrington  
Louden Herrera  
Sermon: Byran Hatcher  
Closing P.: Ricardo Alvillar

### *Those serving Wednesday*

Teacher: Byran Hatcher  
Announcements: Byran Hatcher  
Devotional: Julius Cook  
Song Leader: Chad Futrell  
Closing Prayer: David Inman

### **Pantry Item**

Small bottle Ketchup

## *Sermon Notes* *The Day of the Lord*

*I. God is \_\_\_\_\_*

*II. As a \_\_\_\_\_ in the Night*

*III. We Must \_\_\_\_\_*

April 12, 2026

Volume 53 Issue 2

Welcome!

Cape Fear  
Church of Christ

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28304

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Find us on  
Facebook!  
Sermons are  
archived on our  
YouTube page!

### Service Times

Sunday:  
B. C. 9:00am  
Worship 10:00am

Wednesday Night:  
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:  
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders  
Wade Hedgepeth  
Byran Hatcher

# The Cape Fear Crier

"Cry aloud and shout...for great in the midst of thee is the Holy One of Israel." Isaiah 12:6

## Lessons From the Lost

The "rich man" of Luke 16 had to wake up in eternity before his eyes were opened to the truth. He has now suddenly become an expert on living a wasted life and realizes that "no man can serve two masters" (Matt. 6:24). The love of riches, the cares of this world, and the pleasures of sin will choke one's soul to death. If the love of God does not master us, the love of this world will.

The ungodly always seek to justify themselves in the sight of men. They should remember that God knows their hearts and that those things exalted among men are "an abomination in the sight of God" (Luke 16:14-15). The inspired words recorded about "a certain rich man" and "a certain beggar named Lazarus" (Luke 16:19-20) contain valuable lessons for those who will hear.

*One may impress men and live like a king in the sight of men, and yet be utterly corrupt in the sight of God!* The "purple and fine linen" (v.19) that make up man's righteousness and turn heads in this world were of no comfort to the rich man in eternity. Multitudes who selfishly live only for themselves and think they have need of nothing are, in reality, "the wretched, one and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked" (Rev. 3:17). We need to learn that men may be impressed with many things that do not impress God.

*One may be poor and loathsome in the eyes of his neighbor, and yet be rich and beautiful in the sight of God.* Lazarus was placed at the rich man's "gate, full of sores," and desired only "to be fed with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table" (vs.20-21). There is no doubt but that the beggar was a disgusting sight to many as the dogs "came and licked his sores" (v.21). God, however, has always been impressed with one's heart and not his outward appearance (I Sam. 16:7). Even though Lazarus was considered to be worthless in the sight of men, he was a precious jewel in the sight of God.

*A man may have a pompous funeral but be a miserable soul!*  
It is a common thing for men to eulogize the past of the departed rich

and famous, but what about their present? Yes, the rich man died and in all probability was given a magnificent funeral, but “in hades he lifted up his eyes, beings in torments” (v.23). It is surely the case that not many mourned the death of Lazarus, yet “he was carried away by the angels into Abraham’s bosom” (v.22).

*One may have an abundance of this world’s goods, but in the world to come be utterly destitute.* Most people measure success by what they accomplish in this life. The problem is that God does not use the same measuring stick as man. One may be a tremendous success according to the world’s standard, but only a miserable failure in the sight of God. Having no needs or cares in this life is no evidence that one’s soul is right with God. The everlasting thirst for only a drop of water will be a terrible torment for one who never knew what it is like to be thirsty (v.24).

*If one neglects his opportunities in this life, he will have an eternity to remember his folly.* One’s memory will be the greatest of tormentors throughout eternity. A person who has lived his life only for the gratification of his own selfish desires will have an eternity to reflect on his mistake. In Hades, the rich man begged for mercy, but such a request was too late (v.24). The answer of Abraham was something that the rich man would play over again and again in his mind. Abraham said, “Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things: but now here he is comforted, and thou art tormented” (v.25).

*The righteous and unrighteous live together in this world, but a day is coming when they will be eternally separated.* People grow quite fond of earthly relationships in this world. Earthly relationships will mean nothing, however, when the great gulf is fixed (v.26). The only thing that will matter then is our relationship with God and Christ. In this world, people can choose to do as they please. It is necessary for the righteous and the unrighteous to cross paths as they travel through this life. There is, however, a day coming when the words of the Savior will be vividly recalled. Christ warned, “Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather up first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn” (Matt. 13:30).

*The prayers and wishes of the lost will avail nothing for themselves or others.* Those who do not value prayer in this life will find that prayer has no value for them in the life to come. All will have a change of heart or mind on the Day of Judgment. But alas, it will be too late (vs. 24, 27-28)!

-BTH

## By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 4/5  
Chapters Read: 361

B.C.: 34  
Worship: 55

Daily Bible Readers: 18  
Wednesday: 35

## Family News and Notes

**Linda Fleming** is at home doing rehab. **Deven Williamson** broke her ankle and will be in an air cast for 6 weeks. Jennifer’s coworker, **Nicole Jones**, is going through chemotherapy and family struggles. **Bethany McKinley** is having a difficult pregnancy; she is due August 10. **Louis Johnston** had a root canal last week and is not feeling well. **Barbara Norris, Jeanette Freshley’s** mother, is struggling with her health. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **John McDougle, Geraldine Harrington’s** uncle, is not doing well. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers, and the family is experiencing significant stress. **Julius Cook’s** uncle passed away in New York. Many members are sick in our current cold/flu season.

Also remember: **Linda Boston, Vicky Carver, Wade & Sandra Hedgepeth, Barry & Melany Hatcher, Kathie Byrd, Margaret Mosley, Frances Salaz, Linda Hernandez,** and the **Davis** family.

Pray for the FOM class Brother Hatcher is teaching at the Bennettsville church of Christ in Bennettsville, SC. There are 16 students in the class. We are in week 7.

## Bible Reading Plan

Apr 12	Apr 13	Apr 14	Apr 15	Apr 16	Apr 17	Apr 18
Pg 398-402	Pg 402-406	Pg 406-411	Pg 411-415	Pg 415-420	Pg 420-424	Pg 424-429

## Events

**Silver Linings:** Friday April 17th @ 11am. Bring your lunch

**Baby Shower:** April 25th at the McKinley residence from 1-3pm. Bethany is registered on Amazon.

**Annual Lectures:** Sheffield Drive C of C, May 2nd, 9-3. Lunch provided.

**Gospel Meeting:** South Lumberton C of C. May 17-20. 7pm weeknights

