

Schedule of Events

Tent Meeting coming up soon (May 30-June 3, 2022). Let Joe know how you can help.

Workday this Tuesday at 6:30 PM. Everyone who can are encouraged to come to the building to help Phillip work on the grounds.

Think on These Things Philippians 4:8

22,000 children die each DAY from poverty

Our Family News

Pray for / Mike Couch's sister, Ed Maxwell, Josiah, Helen Spicer, Bill and Peggy

Traveling/Working / Terry Campbell, Wyatt Couch, Steve and Abby

Radio Programs / Listen to "Searching the scriptures", our weekly radio program on KMBQ 99.7 Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM.

Today's Scripture / Luke 18:24 (CSBBible) "Seeing that he became sad, Jesus said, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!"

Wisdom for Today / Job 36:19 (KJV) "Will he esteem thy riches? *no*, nor gold, nor all the forces of strength."

AM and PM Sermon / George Jensen

Attendance last Sunday: 60

For more information check our website at www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Evangelists

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Bill Beebe | (907) 841-9261 | billbeebecoc@gmail.com

May 1, 2022 Bulletin for the



church of Christ

— AT WASILLA —

God's Plan of Salvation

Hear Romans 10:17

Believe Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6

Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10

Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matt 10:32-33

Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16

Remain Faithful Matt 24:13, Rev 2:10, James 1:12

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

Contact Information

Meeting Times

Sunday

Bible Classes **10AM**

AM Worship **11AM**

PM Worship **5PM**

Wednesday

Bible Study **7PM**

Office Hours

Call or Ck Web

Come join us!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

2061 N. Merciful Circle
Wasilla, Ak 99654
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors always welcome; Members expected

“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.” Psalm 122:1

Sins of a Lesser Kind: Luxury

By Bill Beebe

When we think of Luxury, most of us think of superyachts, penthouse apartments in New York City, Rolls Royce vehicles, private jets, and fancy clothes. We rarely think of it as sinful. But I would have you consider the following statements of Jesus. **Luke 15:11-12 (KJV)**

11 And he said, **A certain man had two sons: 12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.** Then **Luke 16:19 (KJV)** **19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:**

In the case of the Prodigal Son Jesus doesn't condemn the father for being wealthy. And when the son asked his father for his inheritance, he wasn't condemned either. Joseph of Arimathaea was wealthy enough to own a grave that no one had used before. It was this Joseph that went to Pilate asking for the body of Jesus so that it could be buried. Therefore, we should conclude from this that just being wealthy is not necessarily a sin. However, Jesus did warn us about riches. On one occasion Jesus compared the chances of a rich man going to Heaven with that of a camel going through the eye of a needle (Matthew 19:24).

The prodigal son was guilty of riotous living after he left his father's house. We don't know any more about this than we are told in the Gospel of Luke. But we know that he sank to a depth that Jews would condemn, having to live with hogs. From the passage it seems clear that the young son's riotous living included things that he had not been accustomed to but were things that he wanted to participate in. And it was more than likely luxurious living that allowed him to pursue a riotous lifestyle.

In the case of the Rich Man and Lazarus, the rich man was

accustomed to living in luxury. Jesus said that he ate sumptuously and was dressed in fine linen and in purple. Both indicate a person with wealth and that he spent at least part of it on what would be considered a luxurious lifestyle. The Holy Spirit didn't tell us that the rich man was guilty of the things we consider "big sins" such as fornication or adultery. But his eternal state, entering eternity in torment, is brutally clear.

Most of us will never be able to even consider buying a yacht or a private jet. And we will probably never be in a situation to buy a penthouse anywhere. So, does this mean that we are not tempted with a luxurious lifestyle and often fall prey to that temptation? No, we are all faced with this when we buy items that we want but can't afford. This causes strains on the family because we are not good stewards of the wealth God blesses us with. These strains then result in broken families as parents are forced into working long hours, taking away time that they should be spending with the children and each other.

A warning should be given to all of us today. Each one of us are rich when we look at the world and not on our immediate neighborhoods. Consider this; 9.2% of the world's population (689 million people) live on less than \$1.90/day. According to the World Bank, about 34 million people in the U.S. live in poverty (\$35.28/day) as recent as 2019. When we dress well, get into a warm and dry vehicle, sit in a warm and dry building then go home to our big screen TV's and more food than we can eat we need to think about the fact that 24% of the world live without electricity. Wealth is not necessarily a sin, it is what we do with it that makes it sinful.

Consider this; a luxurious lifestyle is something that we can't afford spiritually, even if we can materially. We should beware of luxury.