

Stewardship Focus

A Chill in the Air

“At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table..”
(Luke 16:20)



This time of year, as the air cools and a chill settles in, certain Scriptures seem to cut a little deeper. Luke’s account of the rich man and Lazarus is one such story. It almost sends a shiver down the spine—haunting in the way it shows us the eternal perspective of a man who had everything on earth, only to find himself in the fiery pit of hell, looking upward in regret.

The contrast is striking. The rich man feasted daily, clothed in purple and linen. Lazarus, meanwhile, was poor, sick, and grateful even for the scraps that fell from the table. His posture reminds us of the blessing of contentment and the truth that God provides, even in small ways.

The haunting part of this parable is not just the rich man’s suffering, but his realization—too late—that he had squandered his life on himself. His possessions and pleasures became his focus, leaving no room for compassion, generosity, or stewardship.

Stewardship, at its core, calls us to live with eternity in view. Our time, talent, and treasure are not just for us; they are meant to be poured out in service to God and others. We can cling to comfort now and miss the greater blessing, or we can live with open hands—sharing what we’ve been given, even if it feels small—and trust God to multiply it for His Kingdom.

The choice is stark: like Lazarus, we can learn to receive with gratitude and give with trust, or like the rich man, we can live for ourselves and face eternal regret.

Stewardship Connection

- **Time** – Take time daily to notice and care for the “Lazarus” at my gate.
- **Talent** – Use my skills to serve others.
- **Treasure** – Release my comfort and luxury to give generously to God’s work.

Reflection Questions:

- In what ways do I relate more to Lazarus—and in what ways do I resemble the rich man?
- How does this story challenge me to view my possessions and resources differently?
- Where is God asking me to share my time, talent, or treasure with someone in need?
- What would it look like for me to live with “eternity in view” in my daily stewardship?

Prayer:

Lord, teach me to hold my blessings with open hands. Protect me from selfishness and short-sighted living. Give me the heart of Lazarus—grateful, humble, and trusting You to provide. Help me to use my time, talent, and treasure not for myself, but for Your Kingdom. May I live today in light of eternity. Amen.