

Speaker Ryan: Remarks at Capitol service honoring Rev. Billy Graham

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WASHINGTON—A service was held in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol today preceding the lying in honor of the late Reverend Billy Graham. Information on how members of the public can pay their respects to Rev. Graham is [available here](#).

House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) made the following remarks at the service, which included President Trump, Vice President Pence, members of the government, and Reverend Graham's family:

"In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'

"Billy Graham woke up every day and did just that. He shared his love of God.

"That love had no end. That love had no barriers.

"He ministered to all walks, from some of the greats whose statues line this very hall—Eisenhower, King, Ford, and Reagan—to everyday citizens lining up to pay their respects.

"No matter how long the lines grew, no matter how much the times changed, his message never diminished.

"That love was so infectious, wasn't it?

"The man had such a gift for connecting with people.

“When listening to Reverend Graham, it is as if he is right there next to you, praying with you, and turning you to the glory of God.

“He did not profess to have all the right answers—look to the Bible, he would say.

“But he sure did point us to all the right questions, and challenge us to look up and look within, to reflect, to repent.

“And in those moments when we felt weak in spirit, when our country was on its knees, he reminded us—he convinced us—that is exactly when we find our grace and our strength.

“Few loved others as Billy Graham did, and few were as beloved as he was.

“Here lies America’s Pastor.

“A man made great not by who he was, but by who he served, with all of his heart and all of his soul and all of his mind.

“We give thanks to God for the life and the works of this humble servant, now and forever.”