



*God's got this
-and you!*

Great Swamp Baptist Church

May 24, 2020

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May 24, 2020

Sunday Morning Worship

9:45 AM Service

Prelude

The Welcome

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call to Worship

Hymn # 4 "To God Be The Glory"

Invocation

Mack Pope

Selections of Praise and Worship

Hymn # 15 "Majesty"

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

Special Music

Bjo Mills

" Oh, What A Savior "

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction

Sunday Morning Worship

11:15 AM Service

Prelude

The Welcome

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call to Worship

Hymn # 4 "To God Be The Glory"

Invocation

Mack Pope

Selections of Praise and Worship

"Way Maker"

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

Special Music

Joyce Gamo

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction



Budget Offerings	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
<i>Tithes & General Budget</i>	<i>\$ 990.00</i>	<i>\$ 4,982.47</i>	<i>- \$ 3,247.47</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$ 745.00</i>		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
	N/A		N/A



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

Today: Mack Pope: 843-540-6636

Next Week: Keith Gamo: 843-986-8745



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am

All Welcome

Wednesday, June 3rd @ 7pm

ABIDE

Pastor's Payer Service

Youth Group

NO WNS NO Children's Groups

Other Groups & Committees will resume at later dates.

*From
The Pastor Ralph's Desk:*



Creating An Atmosphere of Faith

(Numbers 13:26-14:12; Deuteronomy 1:6-8,21-37)

Intro: On Saturday, March 4th, 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt gave his first inauguration address. In this address, he made what is probably, after his famous address following Pearl Harbor, his most famous quote, "So first of all let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself—nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance."

These word of President Franklin D. Roosevelt need to be shouted from our rooftops, from Capitols and from our pulpits. We have allowed fear to so grip us that we can't move forward.

Now I understand that there is certainly what we call a healthy fear. A fear that reminds us we need to have a respect and reverence for certain things and by all means certain persons. As a matter of fact, we are told over and over in the Word of God to fear the Lord. We are to have awe, reverence, and respect for Him.

However, the fear that we are experiencing with this virus and this pandemic is becoming I'm afraid more of an unhealthy fear than a healthy one. We are locking ourselves away from one another and from activities that we really need to be involved in. it is causing people to lose their jobs or their livelihoods. They are giving up some of their individual constitutional rights. They are choosing not to get help with their other health issues. This list could go on and on.

In our Scripture verses for this message, we find a tremendous correlation between what happened then and what is happening today. It was an event where fear became the dominant controlling factor in the life of a nation, of course it was the nation of Israel. This fear led to a tragic result and loss of tremendous blessing God intended upon them having.

*What I want us to learn from this Biblical event is how not to create a climate of fear. I'm calling the message *Creating an Atmosphere of Faith*. It is time for the church to set the example and rise above our fear and start practicing our faith. So let us see how we can do that.*

I. First, creating an atmosphere of faith requires that we choose not to linger.

In this event, Numbers tells us that God initiated the choosing of the twelve spies to go and check out the land before they entered the Promise Land.

The Book of Deuteronomy tells us that God and Moses had instructed the people to move on into the Promise Land but they asked if the spies could be sent first and God granted their request. So, most likely it happened the way that the Book of Deuteronomy tells it. God instructed it to happen as the Book of Numbers says but He instructed at the request of the people.

Now in Deuteronomy, both God and Moses have instructed the nation to move on in and take control of the Promise Land He had promised to give them. But instead of immediately responding to the instructions of Moses and God Himself, asked for the spies to first check things out.

Now, to me what they are doing is they are lingering. We need a committee to make sure it is safe and we can actually do this thing. By not immediately responding, they are already starting to cast doubt and fear.

So, it is today, we are lingering. This lingering has been rescheduled over and over. We ask the question, how long is long enough? Also, by our lingering, will people stop dying because of it? Absolutely not. They were dying before our lingering. They are dying while we are lingering and they will tragically be dying when we finally stop lingering.

Our life is a life of faith and God doesn't mean for us to linger forever. Lingerer will never stop the risk in life, and it will never change who God is. He was all powerful before they came to the Promise Land. He was all powerful while the spies were going throughout the land and He was all powerful when they got back.

So, too, He was all powerful before this pandemic, in the midst and will be at the end of it. So, let us not linger. Let's trust.

II. Second, creating an atmosphere of faith requires that we choose not listen.

So, the question is not listen to what? Well, in the Biblical account that we are observing, when the twelve spies returned they reported both good news and bad news. The good news was that the land was indeed flowing with milk and honey. Meaning that it was extremely fertile and productive.

Now, the bad news was that the people living in the Promise Land were very powerful and lived in very large walled cities. There were even people there who were descendants of the race of giants who used to be there in the past.

Now, as we often say, there is nothing new under the sun, the nation primarily focused upon the bad news. As a matter of fact, they focused only on the bad news. As they listened the bad news only got worse. It became exaggerated. The tall walls of the city became walls that extended all the way up to the sky. The giants became so big that everybody else were only like grasshoppers in their sight. As the news got exaggerated the fear only grew.

Now, it is no different today. We tend to primarily only listen to the bad news and with our media today that bad news usually gets exaggerated. This then creates a fear that hold back and holds down and eventually harms more than does us good.

If they had listened to the good news being presented, that not only was the land flowing with milk and honey but also the news that the Lord had promised this land to them and that He would go before them and fight with them and give them victory. They could have immediately gotten out of the land of wandering into the land of wonder.

Now, of course, we had our good news long before the virus got here, and it is still with and will be with us long after the virus is gone or under control. That good news is God's infallible and Holy Word. From this Word we get all the good news we need to survive whatever this life throws at us. For it tells us all the promises of God for us, all the power of God available to us and all the passion of God for us.

However, let me take a moment and remind you that even with this horrible, dangerous and deadly virus, there is much good news that we need to be listening to about it that we either are not hearing because it is not being reported very much, or we have become so fearful that we've tuned it out. At the time of my writing this, the latest corona virus (May 19th) update for our state reveals that so far our state has tested 131,559 persons for the virus. Of that number only 8,942 have been confirmed to have the virus. Out of this number in our state, the total number of deaths contributed to the virus has been 391. Now of that 391, how many of them had pre-existing conditions that added to the tragic loss of their lives? That is a statistic that I don't have. However, we know that most of those who have passed away with the virus had

the loss. So, what I am trying to show is that the numbers are extremely clear that most people who catch it do not die from it and many have very little symptoms with it at all.

So, let us not ignore the news that there is a dangerous and deadly virus but also let us hear the good news that the numbers revealed are not quite as dangerous and deadly for the greater portion of our population.

Now, as I close this point, I am not asking to not take the virus serious, indeed we should. However, I am asking us to not allow it to grip us with such fear that we become extremely anxious, despondent and depressed. Let us be reminded that with our God, with His Holy Word, the good news far outweighs the bad.

III. Third, Creating an atmosphere of faith requires that we choose not to lose.

Now, again, we ask ourselves, lose what? What did the nation of Israel lose at this point in time? They lost their faith in God. For more than a year the nation had seen God do one miracle after another. They witnessed Him carry out all the plagues He used against Egypt. They then watched Him open up the Red Sea so they could cross on dry ground in the midst of the sea. They then watched Him cover the waters over the Egyptian army and destroy it. This list of miracles could go on and on.

Now, what's important to keep in mind is that God would let them know what He was going to do, and then they would get to see God fulfill what He had promised. Well, God had already promised them that He was going to give them this Promise Land. He had already assured them that He was going in the Promise Land ahead of them and with them. He had already promised He would give them victory over all the enemies they would encounter in the Promise Land no matter who they were or how big they were.

However, in spite of the fact that they had several times watched God fulfill His promises to them over and over, they allowed the bad news to cause them to forget all He had done for them and thus to lose their faith in God's ability to keep His promises. So, what happened here was that they focused upon their fear instead of their faith. Not only did they lose their faith in God and His ability to keep His promises, but they also lost everything God had meant for them to experience when they entered the Promise Land. All the victories they would have won and all the milk and honey they would have experienced and so much more is gone. Now all they had to look forward to was wandering in the wilderness for forty years until that unfaithful generation died off. The writer of Hebrews says, "And to whom did God swear that they would never enter His rest if not to those who disobeyed? So, we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief." (Heb. 3:18-19)

Concl. So, let us not lose sight of all the things God has done for us and there are many more than He did for the Children of Israel at that time. He has fulfilled His promises and prophecy of redemption for us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, we can trust Him that He walks with us and will never forsake us and He will see us through this. Let faith be our focus not fear. Jesus used the phrase fear not over and over. So, let us shout how Great is our God and let us live with total confidence in Him.

*Jesus Loves You
Ralph Lee, Jr.*

GSBC Prayer Page

*Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor
Richard Waitt- Music Director
Deacons*

Leadership

*President Donald Trump
United States of America*

Hospitals

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Dev. Ministries
Church Finances*

Unspoken

*Olivia & Juan Garcia
Jessica Cleland
David Meador
Steve Crosby*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry
Abide Wednesday Services*

Bereavement

Family of

Surgery / Recovery

*Chelsea Lake (1/17)
Jennifer Resh (1/6)
Alice Reynolds (2/12)
Skylar Saygen (3/2)
Dustin Roberts (5/20)*

Cancer / Treatments

*Mitzi Cramer (1/28)
Lynn Daugherty (8/30)
Sidney (8/15)
Douglas Denegel (9/16)
Mark Tuten (1/21)
Becky Goretzka (5/20)
Gail Sims (5/18)*

Other Health Needs

*Danny Breland (9/19)
Cookie Daley (11/19)
James Harris (12/10)
Jane Gorman (12/19)
Robert Sauls (5/18)
Jane Waitt (5/20)*

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler-RNC
Doris Blackmon-Morningside
Becky Jones-Anderson
Royce Malphrus-RNC
Wilma Jean McGill-RNC
Bobby Mohn-Indigo Pines HHI*

Called to Ministry

Chris Carter & Family

Expecting / Births

*Sophia Sineath
Courtney Humbert
Brantley Lawson*

Please Continue To Remember

*Shirley Malphrus
Rose Boyles
Mary Cope
Judy Smith
Jeffrey Stanley
Redden Tuten
Vera Floyd*

*Dot Nettles
Tom Hinely
Lois Bootle
Grace Boyles
Patricia Malphrus
Scott Boyles
Ann Blocker
Charles Maney*

*Gary Way
Lanell Smith
Dot Tindal
Frankie Malphrus
Betty Robertson
Dale Robiston*

Pray For Our Military

*Sgt. Jared Blanton-Deployed
Isaac Martin Malphrus
Cape May, NJ / Coast Guard
Matthew Mills-CA-US Marines
Jericho Malphrus-Sp. Agent / Air Force /
Oklahoma City. OK
Michael Sottile - Deployed
Tristan Blanton-San Diego/ SWCC*



Great Swamp Baptist Church
9009 Tarboro Rd.
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Ridgeland, SC 29936

Sunday Morning Breakfast 8:30AM
Sunday School 9:45AM
Morning Worship 11:00AM
Evening Worship 6:00PM
Wednesday Night Supper 6:00PM
Wednesday Night Service 7:00PM

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