



Great Swamp Baptist Church

June 14, 2020

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

9:45 AM Service

Prelude

The Welcome

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call to Worship

Hymn # 335 "Standing On The Promises"

Invocation

Michael Daley

Selections of Praise and Worship

"Way Maker"

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Special

Mended

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction

Sunday Morning Worship

11:15 AM Service

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Budget Offerings	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
<i>Tithes & General Budget</i>	\$ 4,657.00	\$ 4,982.47	+ \$ 134.05
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$ 459.52		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Benevolence</i>	\$50.00	*****	\$382.27
<i>Youth Camp</i>	\$411.00	*****	\$164.23
<i>Kitchen Supplies</i>	\$10.00	*****	\$70.00
<i>Youth Annex</i>	\$1,105.00	*****	\$1,744.75



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

Today: Michael Daley: 843-505-0998

Next Week: Wilbur Daley: 843-305-0110



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am

Wednesday Night Services @ 7pm

ABIDE—MPB Bldg.

Pastor's Payer Service—Old Social Hall

Youth Group—Mobile Classroom

NO WNS NO Children's Groups

Other Groups & Committees will resume at later dates.

From
The Pastor Ralph's Desk:



Conquering the Fear of Death

(Hebrews 2:14-18)

Intro: With the combination of the covid virus, the violent protests and the racial tension in the air, has created in all of us a sense of fear. However, the fear that seems to be grabbing a hold of us the most is the fear of death. We are afraid to go anywhere because we might get the virus or we might encounter violent protestors. So, what has happened is that the fear of death has so frightened us that we have become immobilized and ineffective in our service for the Lord.

God's people shouldn't have this much fear when it comes to the matter of death. I know that we already know that but clearly we all need to be reminded of the great victory that is our over death through Jesus Christ our Lord. My message is titled conquering the fear of death. This is to encourage the Believers of the victory they have and to reveal to those who are not Christians how they can discover in their own lives victory over death.

Now, we are reading just a few verses but the message will cover verses from not only chapter two, which we are reading but also chapter one. So, let us let the pages of the Word of God show us how to conquer the fear of death.

I. First, Conquering the fear of death requires understanding that Jesus Christ the Son of God is better.

The entire Book of Hebrews was written to show us that Jesus our Lord is better than all things and all persons. From the first chapter till the last one, it continuously shows who and what Jesus is better than. It shows us that Jesus is the absolute best because He is absolutely better.

Chapter one and two were written to show that He was and is and will ever be better than the angels of glory. In other words, He is better than the angels and all else because of who He is.

A. He is better because of who He is. *The opening verses of the entire Book was written to show why He is better than the angels, but they really set the tone for the entire book, and lets you know right from the beginning Jesus is better than all because of who He is. The entire book, in a nutshell, is found in the opening verses.*

"In the past, God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times, and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe. The Son in the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful Word. After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the majesty in Heaven. So, He became much superior to the angels as the name He has inherited is superior to theirs." (Heb. 1:1-4).

By the time the Book of Hebrews was written, there had already been a pretty elaborate teaching developed around angelic beings. Many of these teachings, then and sadly still today, have placed angels in positions and with authority God never gave them or intended them to hold. As a matter of fact, in this particular angelic theology, if you would, the angels are placed in the highest of positions of glory, ranked right up there where only we would place Jesus Himself. So, the writer of the Book of Hebrews under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, immediately, boldly and clearly lets us know that Jesus is at

the top and that is the end of the story. He is at the top because the Father placed Him there. He is there because He is the “exact representation of His being.” This means that He and the Father are one. Along with the Father and the Spirit He is God. He always has been and always will be. So, because He is God, He was able to create all things including the angels and by His powerful Word, He holds it all together. As a matter of fact, these angels, who were at that time being worshipped by people and still today, were and required by the Father to bow down and worship Jesus Christ the Son of God. (1:6).

Because of who Jesus is, we don't have to fear death as the Bible verse we first read in our opening reading tells us that He came to free us from the fear of death. (2:15). Well, because of who the writer of Hebrews tells Jesus is in those opening verses, we know that He has the power position, power and authority to do and accomplish all that was required to defeat the power and person of death, Amen and Praise the Lord.

B. Second, He is better because of what He has done. (Heb. 2:5-18). What the writer of Hebrews tells us is that though Jesus is greater than the angels in glory, He was willing for a period of time to make Himself lower than the angels by leaving His home in Heaven, coming to the earth and taking upon Himself flesh. He did this so that He could step into our world and bring us eternal redemption. This was required because in our flesh and blood we allowed sin to take place and this sin separated us from God. Someone had to come into the flesh and do what we couldn't, live a sinless life for us and that is exactly what Jesus did. Therefore, because He lived a sinless life, He was able to be the perfect sacrifice for our sins. Oh, Bless His Holy Name that He was willing to do what He did for had He not then there would be no one else who could have because He alone is better than all others and only the best could bring us our eternal salvation.

C. Third, He is better because of who He defeated. Of course we are told here that who He defeated was the devil, and He defeated the devil because he held the power of death.

Satan wants to get all the glory that belongs only to Jesus Christ our Lord. So, obviously he doesn't want anyone to believe in Christ and become a follower of Jesus. He wants to keep everyone a non-believer until they die so that at least in hell they will join him there.

Now, in order to make this happen, Satan keeps before us the fear of death. He either convinces us that we are beyond redemption and that we just need not even try or he convinces us of the opposite. He tries to convince us that we can work our way to Heaven by doing good works. He keeps on convincing us by the fear of death that we've got to keep on doing more if we are going to do enough for God to accept us.

However, the problem is we could never do enough to ever be excepted by God through good works because we are sinners. Oh, but Praise our Lord that He was, is and will ever be greater than the devil. With His power He did what we couldn't. He lived that perfect life for us. He died for us in our place. He then, after dying, came victoriously out of the grave three days later doing for us what we could never do. So, we conquer the fear by totally resting in the fact that Jesus accomplishes all for us and trusts in His finished work knowing that He defeated what Satan tried to convince us couldn't be defeated, death itself, and by conquering death. He has conquered the devil himself. Death does not usher you into Heaven. It just ushers you into the grave, but grabs us and ushers us into glory. So, let us rise up above this fear because Christ has given His people victory over sin, death, hell, the grave and the devil himself.

Listen to the words of John MacArthur, “ If you have a more powerful weapon than your enemy, his weapon becomes useless. You cannot fight against a machine gun with a bow and arrow. Satan's weapon is extremely powerful. But God has a weapon even more powerful—eternal life—and with it Jesus destroyed death. The way to eternal life is through resurrection, but the way to resurrection is through death. So, Jesus had to experience death

before He could be resurrected and thereby give us life. Jesus' dying destroyed death. How? He went into death, through death, and came out on the other side, thereby conquering it. Then He could say, 'Because I live, you shall live also' (John 14:19). The resurrection of Jesus Christ provides the Believer with eternal life. It is the only thing that could ever have done it. Death is the power of Satan's dominion, and when Jesus shattered Satan's power He also shattered his dominion. And might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. (2:15).

The thing that terrifies people more than anything else is death. It is a horrible fear, the king of terrors. But when we receive Jesus Christ, death hold no more fear. We have been released from bondage to the fear of death, and instead, actually look forward to it. We say with Paul, 'For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.' (Phil.1:21) and 'O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?' (I Cor. 15:55). Death no longer holds any fear, for it simply releases us into the presence of our Lord. Why? Because we have placed our hands into the hands of the Conqueror of death, and He will lead us into one side of the grave and out the other. He never could have done it if He had not become for a little while lower than the angels."

II. Second, Conquering the fear of death requires understanding that the Children of God are brothers.

With this point, I just wanted to take a few moments to share that when you are in the right family, all will ultimately turn out not only alright but eventually even perfect. In these verses we discover that by the redemptive work of our Blessed Lord He has made all of us who have trusted in Him as Lord and Savior to be holy in His presence. So, because He is holy and He has made us holy, we are then a part of the same family. Therefore, as the verses say, "So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. He says, 'I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises.' And again, 'I will put my trust in Him.' And again He says, 'Here I am, and the Children of God He has given Me.'" (Heb. 2:11-13).

Jesus took upon our flesh and blood and stepped into our physical family, so that He could bring us redemption and bring us into eternal family.

There are families in the world that if you belonged to them you would never lack anything you need or want. However, there are limits to the abilities of these families. They can't give you redemption. They can't transform your life out of darkness into the light. They can't make you holy and right in God's sight. They can't make you a Child of God and they can't give your victory over death, hell and the grave.

However, when you respond in repentance and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation, He will do all the above for you and more. And since it is God's family and Jesus recognizes us as His brothers and sisters, we need never worry about another thing for they will forever be able to keep us in the family. Oh, child of God, fear not death, you belong to the family of eternal life, God's family.

Concl. Until Jesus comes back and sets up His eternal kingdom here, there will be death. But because of who Christ is and because of what He came to do and because of who He defeated and because He makes us holy so we can be the Children of God, then death has no hold on us. Can you assuredly say, I am a Child of God, Jesus Christ is my brother, I'm in the right family? If not, then call out to Him to forgive and save you and let Him forgive you and bring you into His family.

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)
Freddie Malphrus (6/4)
Ann Blocker (6/10)*

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)
Gene Cooler, Jr. (5/28)
Gary Malphrus (6/3)*

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)
Robert Sauls (6/4)*

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

*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*

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
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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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