

Great Swamp Baptist Church



January 3, 2021

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Prelude

The Welcome

Announcements
Hymn #

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr

Call To Worship

Invocation

Keith Gamo

Selections of Praise and Worship

We Pray for Special Needs
Pastoral Prayer
Offertory Special

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Mended

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction

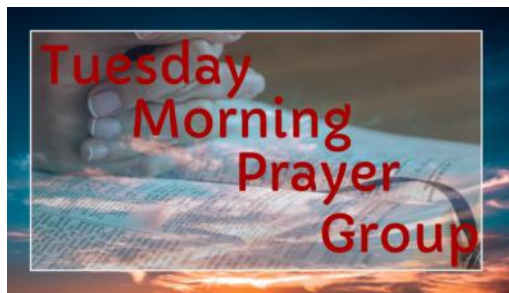
Nursery Workers

Today: Vanessa Smoak
Helpers Needed; See Vanessa



Children's Church

Today: Olivia Stanley



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

Today:

Keith Gamo: 843-986-8745

Next Week:

Freddie Malphrus: 843-816-3206





Divine Intervention Required

(Matt. 1:18-25; Luke 2:8-20; Matt. 2:1-2)

Intro: From the Word of God, we clearly understand that the first Christmas was all about Divine intervention into our world. Nothing more clearly shows that to us than what the angel said to Joseph about what the Child would be called according to the prophecy of Isaiah. "All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet. The virgin will be with Child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel which means God with us." You can't get anymore Divine intervention than that. It plainly says that the Child born to Mary was God with us.

So, with that fact being clearly stated and understood, the question to be asked is why was divine intervention required? The answer to that question is what we are going to examine in this message. The reason why we are dealing with this question is because I believe that Divine intervention of that first Christmas is still needed for today. So, let us look at what I am simply calling Divine Intervention Required.

I. First notice that Divine intervention was required because of the wrong in humanity. (Matt. 1:21).

This verse clearly shows the wrong in humanity because it tells us that the Christmas Child was to be called Jesus for He had come to save His people from their sins. So, Divine intervention was required by God to deal with the sin problem that dwells in all of humanity.

Now, the majority of Christians are well aware that the Scriptures teach us that sin is a universal problem for the Bible says, "That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23).

The tragedy, however, is that we've made sin clearly acceptable and inoffensive. However, we need to come back to the realization that it has never been and never will be acceptable with God no matter how sugar coated we may make it. It is offensive to our Holy God. The reason why is because sin is humanity choosing to take their own paths instead of God's. It is basically turning ourselves into being god of ourselves.

Now, the problem with this is that God is our Creator. He created us for His purpose, His will, His desire and His commands. To go against those things is to say God, you're not important; you're nor my Creator or God I'll do my own thing.

Now, the problem with the fact that each and all of us have sinned against our Holy God, we've been made unacceptable in His Holy presence. However, it is not God's desire that we be separated from Him but before He can allow us into His Holy presence, He has got to clean us up. Of course, what that means is that He's got to rid us of our sins which make us unacceptable in His sight. As a matter of fact, they don't just make us unacceptable in His sight, but they literally make us objects of His wrath.

The obvious reason why Divine intervention was required to take care of this sin problem that we each have is for that very reason all of us have sinned. Therefore, that puts us all in the same need to be rescued and delivered.

Well, praise God that Christmas is all Divine intervention to deal with the sin problem of all who would be willing to accept what God has done to fix our sin problem, and nothing but what God has done will fix it for the angel told Mary and Joseph to name the Christ Child Jesus because He will save His people from their sins.

How did this Divine intervention fix our sin problem? Well, to make us acceptable and Holy in His sight, God sent His Son into our world to deal with our sin problem by removing it from us. Paul gives us a beautiful picture of how God removed our sins. Paul shows us that it was with a transfusion. "God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." (2 Cor. 5:21). This means that God transferred our sins from us and placed them on His blessed and Holy Son so that He could take for us the punishment that we deserved. In place of our sins, He transferred His righteousness to us so that we could stand clean, pure, Holy and right in His sight. It was and is when you trust Him a complete and total transfusion like no other because it went both ways. When we get a blood transfusion, it only goes one way. But with Salvation, Jesus moved our sins upon Himself and then moved His righteousness our way. Oh, what a Savior. I pray you have trusted Him for your Salvation He can remove your sins and replace it with His righteousness.

II. Second let us notice that Divine intervention was required because of the weakness of humanity. (Matt. 1:21; Luke 2:11).

Now, according to the verses, we are using for this point, we see that Divine intervention was required so God could save His people from their sins. As Luke said He was born to be our Savior. He came to save us, but why? Why don't they just save themselves? Well, that is the whole purpose for the Divine intervention of that first Christmas. For humanity's weakness is that they can't save themselves.

The reason humanity can't save itself is because the Word of God shows us that because we are sinners, then we are dead in our transgressions and sins. (Eph. 2:1). The question is what can a dead man do? The answer is exactly, nothing. We all are drowning in the sea of sinfulness and we all need someone of somewhere to rescue us. This is where Jesus covers us because He never sinned. He alone was qualified to be our Redeemer, Savior, Deliverer and Rescuer.

Paul absolutely and unequivocally leaves us no doubt that it is only by God's grace that we are saved not by works lest anyone should boast. (Eph. 2:8-9). Now, God wants us to do good works but not to save us but because we are saved.

Oh, how we need to praise our Lord this Christmas because with that first Christmas Divine intervention, God did for us what we couldn't do for ourselves. In His mercy, grace, love and power, He saved us. Oh, what a Savior.

III. Third, notice that Divine intervention was required because of worship from humanity. (Matt. 2:1-2; Luke 2:13-14,20).

We all know that the Wise Men didn't actually show up on the night that Christ was born. As a matter of fact, we don't know exactly when they arrived. But we do know it was while Jesus was still an infant child.

Now, let us consider all the things that the Wise Men or Magi did on their journey. They travelled from a long distance. They took some time to make the journey because they did travel from a long distance. So, they exerted a lot of energy and time to come and find the Christ Child. This also means that they were away from family and friends for sometime in order to make this trip. So, they made a tremendous sacrifice to make this trip to find this Christ Child. Their heart, soul and mind were devoted to one thing, to find Him who had been born King of the Jews and King of kings.

Let's ask ourselves, why did they want to find the Christ Child? Why so much devotion to discovering Him? There is only one answer given. They came to do one thing and that one thing was to worship Him. "Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him." (Matt. 2:2). So, God carried out this Divine intervention to cause humanity to do for His Son what the angels in glory already did and that was and is to worship Him.

The Bible tells us that after the angel appeared to the shepherds and gave them the good news that a Savior had been born that "suddenly a great company of the Heavenly Host appeared with the angels, praising God and saying Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests." (Luke 2:13-14). So, in these verses we see the Heavenly Host praising God. Now, however, with His entrance into the world, worship became both a Heavenly and earthly event. The Wise Men worshipped and the shepherds worshipped Him. Our Savior deserves our devotion and worship and His entrance into the world to save us leaves us with no doubt that the Father sent Jesus so that we would worship Him as He was in glory. So, does the world see and does Heaven hear our complete devotion and worship of Him who came to save us.

Concl. Sin hasn't gone away yet and humans are still too weak to save themselves and Christ is still worthy of our worship. So Divine intervention is still needed. However, His intervention today is Christ in us. Through us Christ is still intervening in our world. So, we've got to take Christ to our world so that they see Him in us. The world needs Him and we can take Him. Lord help us to let the world see your help for them through us.



Jesus Loves You

Ralph Lee, Jr.



Menu to be announced.

\$5.00 each or \$15.00 for a family of 4 or more.

 Weekly Offering	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$ 2,221.00	\$ 4,982.47	- \$ 2,661.47
Online Offerings	\$ 100.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Office Supply</i>	\$ 50.00	*****	\$ 6,467.27
<i>Lottie Moon Offering</i>	\$ 11.00	*****	\$ 2,325.00
<i>Gleaners SS Class</i>	\$ 67.00	*****	\$ 363.33
<i>Step of Faith Donation</i>	\$ 100.00	*****	\$ 100.00

Wednesday Night Services @ 7pm

PASTOR'S PRAYER SERVICE—*Building 3, Old Social Hall*

Leader-Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

ABIDE CONTEMPORARY SERVICE—*Multi-Purpose Building*

Leader-Wilbur Daley

YOUTH GROUP—*Youth Annex*

Leader-Michelle Waitt

R.A.'S (Royal Ambassadors)—*Room 417*

Leader-Pat Mason

G.A.'S (GIRLS IN ACTION)—*Room 415*

Leader-Sherry Toland

Sunday School Classes @ 9:15am

CAMO CLASS—*Room 406*

Leader- Bobby Smith

GLEANERS CLASS—*Room 401*

Leader-Audrey Roberts

VISIONARIES CLASS—*Building 3, Old Social Hall*

Leader-Wilbur Daley

SOJOURNERS CLASS—*Room 417*

Leader-Mack Pope

SENIOR ADULT MEN CLASS—*Room 413*

Leader-Truett Vaigneur

YOUTH—*Youth Annex*

Leader-Faye Lowther

GSBC Prayer Page

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

Leadership
*President Donald Trump
United States of America*

Hospitals

Surgery / Recovery

*Skylar Saygen
Ann Blocker
Michelle Rooks
Marie Cole*

Nursing Centers
*Elaine Degler-RNC
Doris Blackmon-Morningside
Wilma Jean McGill-RNC
Bobby Mohn-Indigo Pines HHI
Byron Vaigneur-Assist.*

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

Unspoken

*Jessica Cleland
Steve Crosby
Heather Betz
Randy Bethune
Jason Holt
Jennifer Cooler Mazzochi*

Cancer / Treatments

*Lynn Daugherty
Sidney
Douglas Denegel
Becky Goretzka
Gail Sims
Gloria Davis
Gary Malphrus
Skip Brooks
Cynthia Box
Regina Bouye
Mack Pope
Kaiaya Alston
Evelyn Olsen*

Expecting / Births

Heather Reid, Feb.

Ministries

*Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry
Abide Wednesday Services*

Bereavement

Family of

Other Health Needs

*Cookie Daley
Jane Gorman
Jerry Cooler
Bobby Tootle
Randy Smoak
Brenda Farve
Andrew Miller
Lloyd Way
Jason Smoak
Celeste Lucas
Pinky Rushing
Chip Sutler
Diane Hannah
Loony Jones (Jeffrey Stanley's
Grandfather)
David Sauls
Tracey Lake
Pat Kemple
Annette Mole
Jerry E. Cooler
Annette Mole*

Please Continue To Remember

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

*Dot Nettles
Tom Hinely
Grace Boyles
Patricia Malphrus
Scott Boyles
Ann Blocker*

*Gary Way
Frankie Malphrus
Betty Robertson
Kenneth & Doby Cleland*

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*

Church Staff

Pastor: Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.....*jehu27@gmail.com*

Music Director: Richard Waitt.....*waittfamily83@gmail.com*

Sunday School Director: Mike Davis.....

ABIDE Contemporary Service: Wilbur Daley.....

Pianist: Michelle Waitt..... *waittfamily83@gmail.com*

Administrative Assistant: Sybil Reynolds.....*greatswampbc@gmail.com*

School Administrator: Donna Carter.....*dcarter@hargray.com*

Landscaper: Wallace Malphrus.....*Josie6@embarqmail.com*



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>Teresa Garbade</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>6th</i>	<i>Duane Armstrong</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>Barbara Malphrus</i>



<i>Friday</i>	<i>8th</i>	<i>Tony & Colleen Standard</i>
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Grandmother's Group

*Every 2nd Monday of the month
11:00 am, MPB*

If you feel more comfortable wearing a mask, please feel free to do so. If you are uncomfortable with a mask, you are not required to wear one. If you have any questions, please call Debbie Hale @ 843-368-5436



Great Swamp Baptist Church
9009 Tarboro Rd.
PO Box 446
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

Email: greatswampbc@gmail.com
Website: greatswampbaptistchurch.com
Church Office: (843) 726-3631