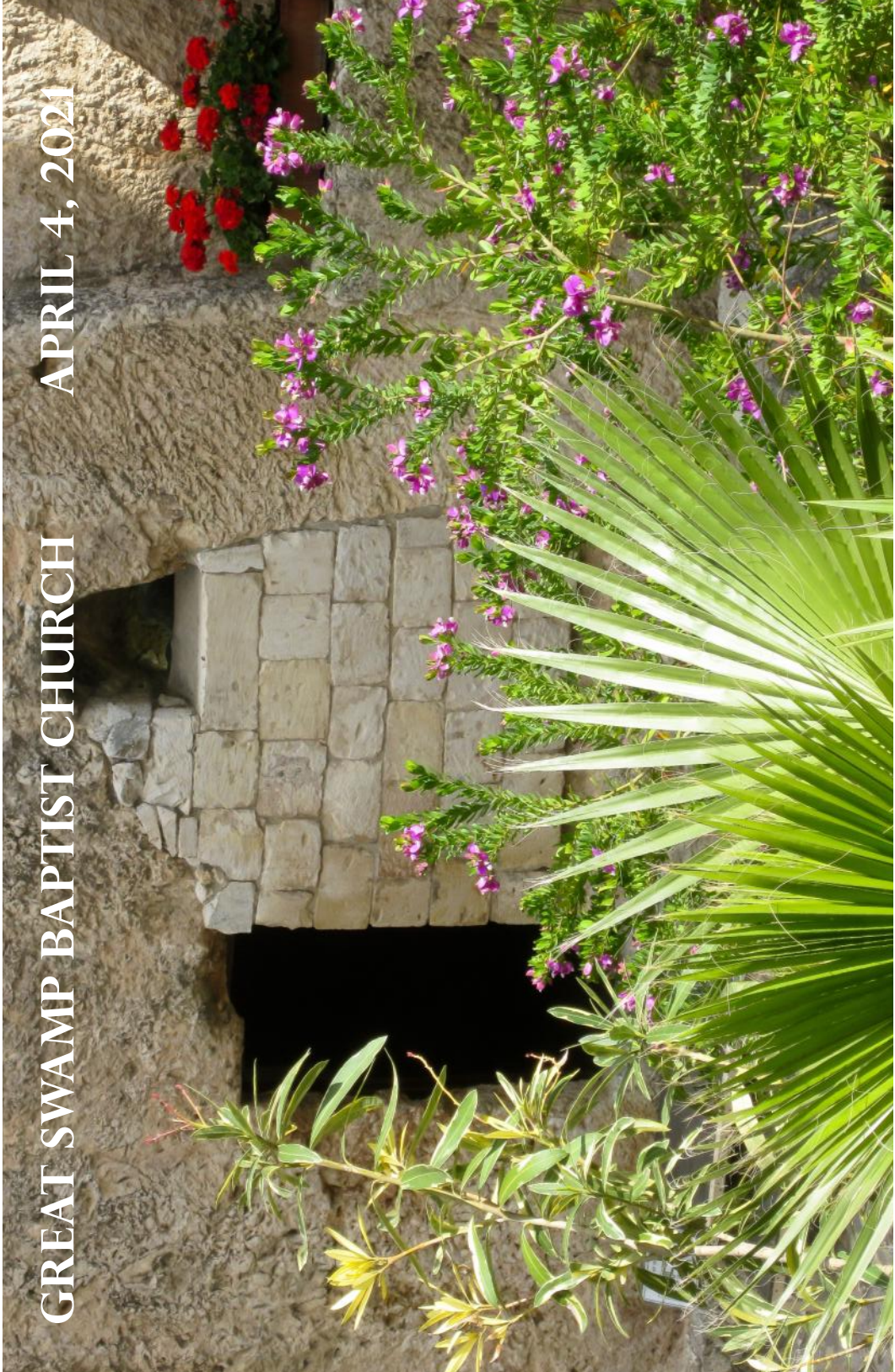


GREAT SWAMP BAPTIST CHURCH APRIL 4, 2021



Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Prelude

The Welcome

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call to Worship

Hymn # 160 "Low in the Grave He Lay"

Invocation

Freddie Malphrus

Selections of Praise & Worship

The Proclaimers

"Because He Lives Medley"

"Gone"

Soloist Bjo Mills

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Special

Joyce Gamo

"Glorious Day"

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction



*During
Children's Church*

*Please bring a basket
or
container
for
collecting eggs.*

Nursery Workers

Today: Vanessa Smoak
Helpers Needed; See Vanessa



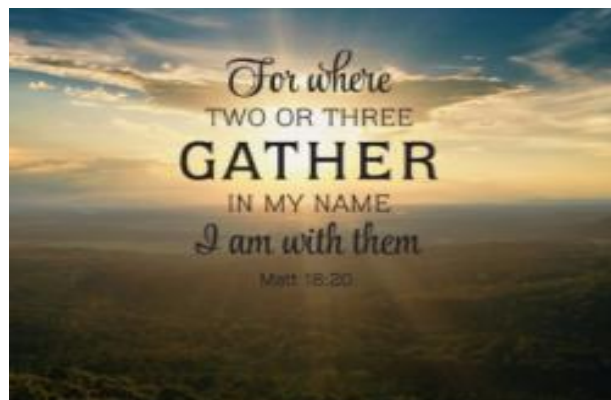
Sunday Mornings

Following

The Song Service

Children's Church

Today: Olivia Stanley/Mason Losgar/Lily Smith



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

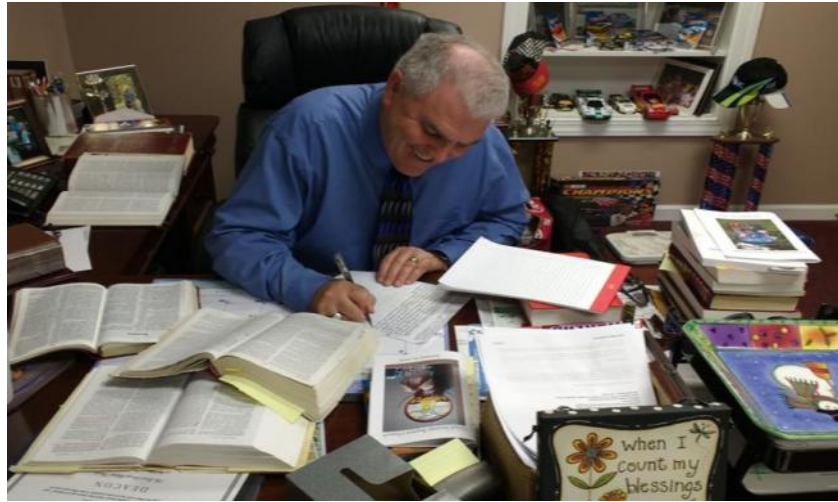
Today:

Freddie Malphrus: 843-816-3206

Next Week:

Wilbur Daley: 843-305-0110





The Agony of the Cross

(Is. 52:13-53:12)

Intro: The open air chapel called Pretty Place in Cedar Mountain, North Carolina, where Tammy and I grew up, has a cross just right before the amazing and beautiful view that is right behind it of mountains, valleys and cities in the distance. Because of the amazing views, very few people rarely ever notice the cross that much. As a matter of fact, when we were growing up that cross was even less noticeable because it was so unattractive. It was made from old rough hewn logs and it had a bend in it going to the left.

Now, when you've got such a gorgeous view behind the cross and the cross is unattractive to begin with, why even take time to notice it. You see we don't like unattractive things. We much prefer to dwell upon that which is attractive.

However, we need to be reminded that like the cross at Pretty Place, as we knew it growing up to be unattractive, so the cross of Calvary upon which our Savior died too was unattractive. As a matter of fact, it was more unattractive than anything that has ever been.

Now, this most unattractive event ever had to take place in order to make our unattractive lives to become attractive in the presence of our Holy God. Sin has made us unacceptable and unattractive to God and at the cross in all of its agony, pain, suffering and ugliness, Jesus took the very thing away from us which made us unacceptable and unattractive to God which of course was our sins. So, let us examine this unattractive event in all of its' agony in order to be reminded of the enormous debt that Jesus paid for our salvation.

I. First, let us notice the mental agony of the cross. (vs. 3).

This verse leaves us no doubt that as Jesus faced the cross and experienced the cross, He knew the pain mentally that one experiences when they are despised, rejected, mocked, and put down.

Now, this mental agony for Jesus was far greater mental agony than anyone has ever faced or will ever face because of Who Jesus was and is and because of the ones who created this kind of agony for Him.

First, He was betrayed by Judas, one of His disciples. Then He was denied by another one of His disciples, the Apostle Peter, and actually they all betrayed

Him by scurrying away during this time. Then He was rejected by the whole crowd that a few days earlier had shouted praises to Him as He triumphantly entered into Jerusalem riding on a donkey. Now they are crying out crucify Him, crucify Him.

Now, what made all of this so extremely agonizing was the fact that Jesus knew just who He was and who they were. He was and is the eternal Son of God and these people were people that He created and called out to be a people and nation belonging to Him. As the Apostle John tells us, "He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him. He came to that which was His own but His own did not receive Him." (John 1:10-11).

The next time you are mentally hurt by someone who either makes fun of you, despises you or rejects you, just remember on a scale greater than we can image, it happened to Jesus.

II. Second, let us notice the physical agony of the cross. (vs. 5).

Looking at this verse, a doctor noted that Jesus experienced every kind of wound that a person could experience. He said that Jesus received a contusion when He was hit on the head with a reed and punched in the face with their hand. Second, this doctor said that He received penetration when forced the throng crown down on His head. Next this doctor said that Jesus received lacerations when He was whipped by the cat of nine tails thirty nine times. Each of the nine leather straps had broken pieces of pottery, sharp rocks, and other such items which would dig deep into the skin as the whip was brought back. Many never survived this part of the execution. Next, Jesus experienced a perforation as they drove the nails into His hands and feet. Finally, He received an incision when they drove the spear into His side. Oh, what pain He endured.

Now, what made His physical suffering so great was the fact that it was carried out at first by the Jews who had rejected Him. Secondly, after the Jews did what legally they could do, they turned Him over to the Romans who alone could carry out an execution of a person on a cross.

When the Romans took charge of His execution, Jesus was turned over to the Roman soldiers to carry out the execution. Most likely these soldiers were Assyrian mercenaries who hated the Jews and since Jesus was called King of the Jews, you can only imagine what pain they would have wanted to inflict upon Him with great pleasure.

What their soldiers did to Jesus was first to strip Him down naked. John the Baptist said that he was not even worthy enough to loosen Jesus' shoes, yet these men just strip Him down. They then whipped Him which we've already mentioned. They mocked Him and played a game with Him by pushing Him around on a giant type of board game they often used for persons about to be executed. Then they placed a crown of thorns on Him made from Judas thorns that can have spikes as long as 5 to 6 inches and they forced it down on His head. We've also already noted that they smote Him on the face and head. Then they placed the cross on His back marching Him up a steep road and it probably weighed around 200 pounds.

Now, once they got Him up to the place where He was to be crucified, they nailed the spikes through His hands and feet. As He was being hung on the cross,

He would begin having diaphragm spasms which would make it extremely difficult to breathe. In order to get relief, He would have to push up on the nail which was driven through His feet and grasp for air.

So the physical agony Jesus faced is almost beyond most of our comprehension. So let us give praise to Jesus Christ our Lord that He suffered so much physical agony which will ultimately make us eternally free of physical agony. As Isaiah says here that, "...by His wounds we are healed." (vs. 5).

III. Third, let us notice the Spiritual agony of the cross.

Now, it is no news to anyone hearing or reading this message that Jesus is not the only person to have ever been crucified. So, this means that the many others in the past that were crucified also suffered many of the same physical pains that Jesus did. So, how can we claim that Jesus' suffering was much more than the mental or physical agony that He faced? For what He faced at the cross that no one else has or ever will face at a crucifixion or any other form of execution. For at the cross Jesus took on our sins. It was the sins of the whole world. Isaiah says that, "...the Lord laid on Him the iniquity of us all." (vs 6).

So at the cross the Holy, pure, clean, perfect and sinless Son of God had to take in His body all the ungodly, unholy, impure, ugly words, deeds and actions of us all.

Then He had to bare the punishment of those sins that were placed upon Him. That punishment was God the Father pouring His wrath out on the sins that His Son was baring. "But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him and by His wounds we are healed." (vs. 5). "Yet it was the Lord's will to crush Him and cause Him to suffer..." (vs. 10).

No one but Jesus Christ our Lord has bore our sins, suffering and punishment all at once on Calvary's cross. So, what Jesus did for us was to take our place and experience for us what we should have experienced. Oh what a Savior.

Concl. So, literally what Jesus did for us as He hung on the cross was to take our Hell for us. We deserve an eternity of Hell for our sin, but in those six hours, Jesus suffered. He suffered an eternity of Hell for us.

Today, you can be made clean, pure, Holy and be acceptable by God because of the agony of the cross. However, for it to become effective in your life you must repent and place your faith in Christ alone.

*Jesus Loves You
Ralph Lee, Jr.*

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**
.....

YOUTH *Youth Annex* **Leader-Faye Lowther**

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-Carol Davis/Diane Thames

.....



Men's Night Out

**Thursday, April 8th
6:30 pm**

*We will meet at Dukes BBQ
in Ridgeland*

All men are encouraged to attend

*Everyone is responsible
to pay for their own meal.*



**April
Collections
Soap & Wash Cloths
Toothbrushes**

*(When you go to the dentist,
ask them if they will donate toothbrushes for
Operation Christmas Child.
Get as many as you can.)*



**Grandmother's
Group**

*Monday , April 12th
11:00 am, MPB
Bring food for Easter
brunch.
All invited.*

GSBC Prayer Page

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

Leadership
*President of the
United States of America*

*Vice President of the
United States of America*

Hospitals

Surgery / Recovery

*Skylar Saygen
Michelle Rooks
Stephen Roberts
Connie Benton
David Sauls
Bess Parnell
Judy Rogers*

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler-RNC
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

*Sidney
Douglas Denegel
Becky Goretzka
Gail Sims
Gloria Davis
Gary Malphrus
Skip Brooks
Cynthia Box
Regina Bouye
Kataya Alston
Wesley Ethridge
Angela Proctor
Jay Dalton*

Expecting / Births

Please Continue To Remember

*Shirley Malphrus
Rose Boyles
Judy Smith
Redden Tuten
Vera Floyd
Barbara Mills*

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

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry
Abide Wednesday Services*

Bereavement

Family of

Other Health Needs

*Cookie Daley
Jane Gorman
Bobby Tootle
Randy Smoak
Brenda Farve
Andrew Miller
Lloyd Way
Loony Jones
(Jeffrey Stanley's Grandfather)
Tracey Lake
Annette Mole
Jerry E. Cooler
Bobby Smith
Keith Gamo
Telie Ethridge
Kenny Smith
Pinky Rushing
Chip Sutler
Arlette Jones
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Iola Daring
Shelby Green
Karen Phillipi*

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>4th</i>	<i>Nancy Rivera</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>6th</i>	<i>Scott Boyles</i>



<i>Friday</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>Mike & Wand Davis</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>4th</i>	<i>David & Cassandra Bradley</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>6th</i>	<i>Charles & Bernice Malphrus</i>



Great Swamp Baptist Church
9009 Tarboro Rd.
PO Box 446
Ridgeland, SC 29936

Sunday Morning Breakfast 8:15AM
Sunday School..... 9:15AM
Morning Worship..... 10:30AM
Wednesday Night Supper 6:00PM
Wednesday Night Service 7:00PM

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