



DATE:

July 25, 2021

VENUE:

Great Swamp BC

TIME:

10:30am

WWW.ETERNALVISION.NET

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

The Welcome

Announcements

Invocation

Mack Pope

Selections of Praise & Worship

Eternal Vision in Concert

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastoral Prayer
Offertory Special

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Nursery Workers

Today: Vanessa Smoak
Helpers Needed; See Vanessa



Sunday Mornings
Following
The Song Service

Children's Church

Today: Olivia Stanley/Gideon Mobley/Amelia Johnson



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

Today:

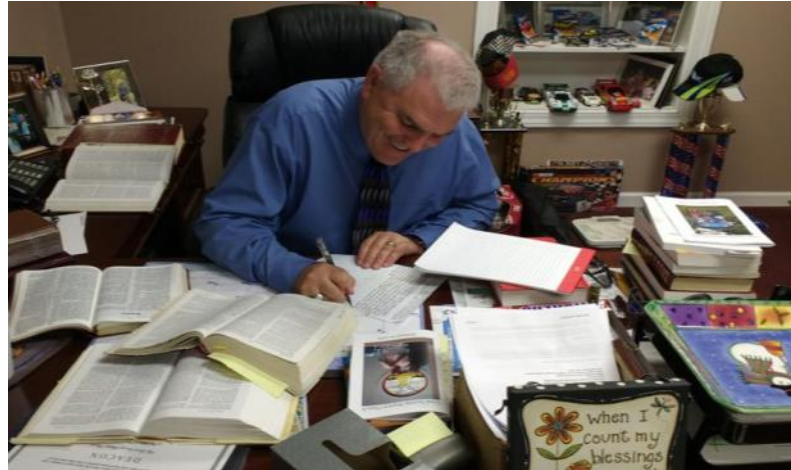
Mack Pope: 843-540-6636

Next Week:

Freddie Malphrus: 843-816-3206



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Changing Circumstances

(Daniel 1:1-21)

Intro: I believe that the Lord would have me preach through the Book of Daniel. So, today, we are going to start our journey in this amazing book. I refer to it as the Old Testament Book of Revelation.

As we open up the Book of Daniel, we have what I call the big move. It is the big move because the citizens of Jerusalem have been defeated by the Babylonians and the ones who survived having been taken into captivity and moved to a land far away that was totally foreign to them.

So, this big move was a complete change of circumstances for the surviving Jews in a big way. However, for at least four of those surviving Jews, which we find in this opening chapter and many more to come, they handled this big move and changing circumstances in a very appropriate manner. So, today I want us to examine how these four dealt with their changing circumstances and ask the Lord to help us do the same. My message is simply called "Changing Circumstances."

I. First, let us notice that changing circumstances are a reality.

These four young Jewish men had most likely heard much of their young lives that because God had chosen the nation of Israel to be His earthly chosen people from which He would bring about the family which would have a seed, someone who would be the Messiah, the Savior, Redeemer, King and Master, would therefore, never be defeated or taken into captivity. As a matter of fact, that is exactly what the false prophets were preaching.

Yet, because of the many sins of much of the nation of Israel, God, Himself, took measures to make sure the nation would be attacked, defeated and taken into captivity.

We must never think that just because we are Christians, circumstances aren't going to change. That is a complete lie of the devil. We live in a sinful, fallen world and the consequences of that is that things are constantly changing, never, ever completely staying the same. So, the reality is that our circumstances will change from time to time, sometimes big, sometimes small but definitely changing. Once we accept that it will help us to appropriately deal with it in a Spiritual way.

II. Second, let us notice that changing circumstances have reasons.

Now, these four young men, no doubt came to or already knew why they were taken into captivity because thankfully not all prophets at that time were fake ones. The true prophets had been preaching and warning the nation that unless they turned from their evil ways, God was going to do to them exactly what He did to them.

So, once again, just the fact that we live in a sin filled world, it will never be completely stable until Jesus returns to make it so. Therefore, changes will constantly be happening.

Now, we obviously can be a little bit more specific about the reasons for changing circumstances caused by the presence of sin in the world.

First, after Adam and Eve disobeyed God and brought sin into the world and humanity, God spelled out consequences that would take place had to do with our physical bodies. Pain was introduced, hard labor became a part of work and eventually death. Obviously, that means that our bodies would have issues that would eventually lead to death. Therefore, our circumstances change because our bodies change, particularly with time, and those often bring about drastic changes in our lives.

Second, sometimes our circumstances change because sin has affected nature and that change can cause catastrophic events to take place which, in many cases, have totally changed the circumstances of a lot of people every year, actually every day. It might come in the form of tornadoes, or hurricanes or earthquakes or and the list goes on.

Third, our circumstances change because of the choices that we make and that can be toward good or sadly, and often toward the bad. If someone gets drunk and chooses to get in a car and drive down the road and lose control, wrecking and lose a limb in the accident, then their choice caused the change in the circumstances.

Now, for the four young Hebrew men, it appears that their drastic change of circumstances was not of their own making. Rather, they were caught up in what I am calling the bigger picture. Just the fact that we are in a sinful world, sometimes we just get caught up in the general mess that takes place because of our fallen society which deals with the consequences that come along with that.

So, where does God fit into all of this? Well, we can't blame God because He is the One who warned Adam and Eve and thus humanity, that if you choose sin, then terrible consequences will occur.

However, we must say absolutely God is Sovereign and sits on the Eternal Throne. Thus some things that happen to us are direct doings of our God that He might discipline us; or test us; or grow us or on the positive side to bless us.

Sometimes, however, I believe that circumstances change because God allows it to happen and for the same reasons mentioned above.

However, always God's children need to remember that, "...in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." (Rom. 8:28).

III. Third, let us notice that changing circumstances have a range.

Now, the range goes from one end to another; from one direction to the other. The range can go from good to bad and vice-versa. In the situation with these four young men, their change was a bit of both. To them, it definitely had a very negative range, however, because new opportunities arose for them, it therefore, also had a range toward the good as well.

Now, that is usually true for us all. When circumstances change, we see some negative that comes out of it but we also see some new possibilities.

Therefore, we need to be like these four Hebrew young men who didn't dwell on the negative and instead focused upon the new possibilities that God provided in their changing circumstances. Dwelling on the bad results won't make your circumstances any better so, look for what good can come out of your changes and with God's help, zero in on whatever that may be. Of course, that is always going to mean the good that will help you glorify God.

IV. Fourth, let us notice that changing circumstances shouldn't replace.

Of course, that is not a complete sentence but we will complete it by looking at what our changing circumstances should never replace.

- A. **Changing circumstances shouldn't replace our purpose.** *These four Hebrew young men must have been a part of the Jewish families back in Jerusalem who chose not to go the sinful direction of most of the people in the nation. They were among the few that continued to honor God by seeking to obey His commands.*

Therefore, when they were taken into captivity and their world was turned upside down, they still made the choice that they would not allow this drastic change to change their faith in God and their purpose to bring glory and honor to His name.

Tragically, many, many persons who call themselves Christians have allowed the changes in their lives to not only change their actual circumstances but also their trust in God and their purpose to honor Him. So, let us follow in the footsteps of these four young men and never allow our changing circumstances to change our purpose to honor God.

B. Changing circumstances shouldn't replace our progress. Under the new circumstances, they chose not to be bitter but to get better. They chose to continue to improve their lives so that they could continue to carry out the purpose of their lives to glorify God. Let it be said of us that we too, in our changing circumstances, are choosing to get better not bitter by progressing on in our walk and journey with Christ Jesus our Lord.

C. Changing circumstances shouldn't replace our practice. These four young men continued to practice their lives in the manner as which they did back in Jerusalem as much as possible as they could regardless of the consequences. They also chose to continue as part of their practice to continue to serve God and humanity as God meant for them to do so.

Our changing circumstances should never change how we practice our lives for God. We should seek to live as God means for us to and continue to serve as God called us to, to make a difference under whatever the changes that have taken place.

The whole point of this point is that while their circumstances changed, their lives didn't. Can that be said of us?

V. Fifth, let us notice that changing circumstances can't remove.

Once again, my point here wasn't a complete sentence. So let us complete it. What was it for the four Hebrew young men that their changing circumstances couldn't remove and what can they not remove from us either? They didn't and they won't remove God. As you read the chapter, God was moving all the parts around for the benefit of these young men. He was very much present in their new circumstances and for His people today our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has promised to never leave or forsake His people. So, though changes take place in life, just remember our God will still be right there with us.

Concl. If you could talk to these young men about their changing circumstances, I believe their advice to us would be, hang in their faith in God and He will see you through and eventually it will all get better by and by and of course,, for the Child of God it will eventually in Glory be better by and by.

Jesus Loves You

Ralph Lee, Jr.

This is the covenant that our Deacons adopted for their
ministry at Great Swamp Baptist Church
Read it, Encourage your Deacons, and stay in prayer for them.

The Deacon Covenant

We will be accountable to God and to each other. We will ask the hard questions about faith and ministry to this church and will provide honest answers.

We must be men of peace. We will strive to allow the Spirit of Christ to rule in our relationships with our families, with each other, and with the members of our church.

We will be shepherds of the Family of God that worships at Great Swamp Baptist Church. We will be servants in the model of Jesus who tenderly watched over his sheep.

We will be vigilant in our personal life. We will put on the whole armor of God as a necessity to help guard against the attacks of Satan.

We will seek an intimate relationship with God through His Son Jesus. We will try to live a life that is above reproach in speech, love, faith, and purity.

We will support the ministries of this church with our finances, our influence and with our prayers.

We will partner with the pastor of this good church to meet the spiritual needs of all of our members, our guests and the community as God leads us.

Announcements

Any man 18 years and older who has been a member of Great Swamp for a year or more and does NOT want their name on the Deacon Election List, please contact the church office @ 843-726-3631 or one of the current deacons this week.

Travis Amason	Pat Mason
Bill Carter	David Meador
Wayne Cooler	Bjo Mills
Ron Davis	Robert O'Dell
Lloyd Freeman	Mack Pope
Kevin Malphrus	Timmy Sauls
Paul Malphrus	Jason Smoak
Rodney Malphrus, Jr.	Fred Stanley
Ronald Malphrus	Mel Toland
Wallace Malphrus	

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$ 4,499.00	\$ 4,982.47	-\$ 458.47
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$ 25.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Senior Trip</i>	<i>\$ 150.00</i>	*****	<i>\$ 3,770.26</i>
<i>SFCA Roofing</i>	<i>\$ 2,300.00</i>	*****	<i>\$ 2,300.00</i>

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-
.....

SOJOURNERS CLASS *Room 417* **Leader-Mack Pope**
.....

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

Wednesday Night Services

@ 7pm

WORSHIP SERVICE *Multi-Purpose Building*
Leader-Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

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



Movie Night **Tonight**

Concessions: 6:30 pm

Movie: 7:00 pm

Popcorn & Tea provided

Bring finger foods to share



Christmas in July Kick Off

Sunday, July 11th

It is that time of the year again. Time to start collecting for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. There are three ways to give.

1—Angel Tree: on the back wall is the Angel tree. Take an angel and on the back are items we need. Bring the angel back with your donation.

2—There will be a list in the bulletin weekly

3—Monetary Donations

There will be a box for you to place your items in. Any questions, please see Bernice Malphrus or Dorthie Armstrong.

July School Supplies

Scissors

Crayons

Pencil Sharpeners

Pencil Erasers

Large Erasers

Glue Sticks

Colored Pencils

Ink Pens

Notebook Paper

Pencils

August

SENIOR ADULT CELEBRATION



“FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT”

*FOOD, FUN, FELLOWSHIP,
MUSIC, INSPIRATION, DOOR PRIZES!!*

**Sign Up Sheet on Bulletin Board
No Cost for
GSBC Family**

SPECIAL NOTE

SEATING IS LIMITED THIS YEAR

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY BY CONTACTING THE
ASSOCIATION AT (843)726-8294.

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS/TICKETS: AUGUST 10

SPONSORED BY SAVANNAH RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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
David Sauls
Judy Rogers
Diane Hannah*

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

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

<i>Shirley Malphrus</i>	<i>Dot Nettles</i>
<i>Rose Boyles</i>	<i>Tom Hinely</i>
<i>Judy Smith</i>	<i>Grace Boyles</i>
<i>Redden Tuten</i>	<i>Scott Boyles</i>
<i>Vera Floyd</i>	<i>Ann Blocker</i>
<i>Barbara Mills</i>	<i>Kenneth & Doby Cle- land</i>
<i>Gary Way</i>	<i>Gloria Tuten</i>
<i>Frankie Malphrus</i>	<i>JW Jarrell</i>
<i>Kenny Smith</i>	<i>Lucille & Ron Degler</i>
<i>Carol Bradham</i>	<i>Red & Helen Malphrus</i>

Church Needs
*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

Unspoken
*Jessica Cleland
Steve Crosby
Heather Betz
Randy Bethune
Jason Holt
Sonya Tootle Cooler*

Cancer / Treatments

*Douglas Denegel
Becky Goretzka
Gail Sims
Gary Malphrus
Skip Brooks
Cynthia Williams
Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Wesley Ethridge
Angela Proctor
Jay Dalton
Reggie Malphrus
Raj's Mother
Margaret Thames*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

*Family of
Bradley Lowther
Joanna Daring*

Other Health Needs

*Jane Gorman
Bobby Tootle
Andrew Miller
Lloyd Way
Loony Jones
(Jeffrey Stanley's Grandfather)
Tracey Lake
Annette Mole
Jerry E. Cooler
Keith Gamo
Telie Ethridge
Pinky Rushing
Chip Sutler
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Shelby Green
Karen Phillipi
Bertha Kinard
Marie Malphrus
Tom Benton
Connie Benton
Mel Toland
Kenny Hay
Lee Martin*

Pray For Our Military

*Sgt. Jared Blanton-Deployed
Matthew Mills-US Marines
Jericho Malphrus-Sp. Agent / Air Force
Washington, D.C.
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.....

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*

Finance Director: Timmy Sauls.....*greatswampbc@gmail.com*



<i>Thursday</i>	<i>29th</i>	<i>Nicole Cole</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>30th</i>	<i>Josh Carter</i>



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>25th</i>	<i>Duane & Dorthie Armstrong</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>29th</i>	<i>Frankie & Margie Malphrus</i>
		<i>Jimmie & Amanda Anderson</i>



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

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

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