

Great Swamp Baptist Church



October 3, 2021

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

The Welcome

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call To Worship

Hymn # 139

“At The Cross”

Invocation

Keith Gamo

Selections of Praise & Worship

“Happy Day”

“Revelation Song”

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

Mended

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/Mason Losgar/Emily Johnson



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

Today:

Keith Gamo: 843-986-8745

Next Week:

Freddie Malphrus: 843-816-3206



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



The Faith of King Nebuchadnezzar

(Daniel 4:1-3, 34-37)

Intro: As we've studied the Book of Daniel, we've discovered that King Nebuchadnezzar, for the first four chapters, is the key individual that the book keeps going back to. By the time we get to the end of chapter four, the king has had a complete turn around as far as his faith goes. As a matter of fact, by this time many Bible scholars and preachers are fully convinced that his faith at this point is a total and complete saving faith.

Now, I don't think that we can answer that with a complete 100% absolutely sure that it was a saving faith, and the reason why I say that is because we don't have the record of his actions following this chapter. But with what we do have in our current chapter, a good argument could be made that his faith is genuine and real.

However, we can definitely say that there is no doubt that his faith grew to be greater than it was. So, I believe that we can learn a lot from his growing faith.

The title of my message is simply, "The Faith of King Nebuchadnezzar."

I. First, let us notice that his faith was a developing faith.

Through a period of time and experiences, his faith grew to be a much stronger faith than when he first expressed any kind of faith toward God at all. I have kind of clarified his faith in three different categories. These categories are basically stepping stones, so to speak, in his journey of faith. The first category or stepping stone is what I am calling an awareness of faith. This took place when the king has his first dream that he calls for his wise men to reveal what it was and what it meant. Of course, the only one who was able to reveal his dream and its' meaning was the prophet Daniel. It was then that the king became aware of the wisdom and power of God. (Daniel 2:46-47). So, the awareness of God's power was the first leg in his journey of faith.

The second stepping stone in his journey took place when he ordered the three Hebrew men to be thrown into the fiery furnace because they refused to obey the king's command to bow down to the image had had created.

However, once he saw that God had protected the three Hebrew men, from the flames and that the Son of God was in the midst of the flames with them, then his faith grew again with what I am calling our acknowledgment of faith.

The king was so moved by the power of God that he acknowledged it and declared to his kingdom that no God could rescue like the three Hebrew men's God could, and that no one in his kingdom should speak against the three men's God.

Now, with these first two experiences that begin to develop faith in the king, he still did not claim God to particularly be his God. He has come to know about God and he is aware of God's power and has even acknowledged that power to his kingdom. However, he has not yet come to grips with a personal faith in God.

It is important that we understand that simply being aware of God's power and even acknowledging it will not give us saving faith. Many church members are lost and not on their way to glory because their faith is merely a faith that is simply awareness of God's power and even acknowledges it. But they have yet allowed it to grip their own lives. The Bible says that even the demons believe and tremble but their belief won't save them.

So, that moves us to the last stepping stone that moves and develops the king's faith to its' greatest level that we ever become acquainted with in the Bible.

I am clarifying this development of faith as his acceding faith. In the first two experiences that we've already looked at, the king becomes aware of and acknowledges the power and wisdom of the God of Daniel and his three Hebrew friends. But what is lacking in those situations is that the king has not personalized his faith in the God of Daniel and his three Hebrew men.

However, in the third experience in which the king has an encounter with God, God becomes more than just the God of Daniel and his three Hebrew friends. God becomes the God of King Nebuchadnezzar. In the last set of verses in chapter four, the king uses the personal pronoun, I, five times when referring to his experience with God on this occasion. "Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified Him who lives forever..." (4:34); "Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of Heaven, because everything He does is right and all His ways are just and those that walk in pride He is able to humble." (4:37).

So, God humbled the king and the king acceded to His power and grace. True saving faith is a faith that is willing to accede and submit to God's power and grace which was carried out through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Has your faith moved from merely awareness and acknowledgement to actual acceptance and acceding to the power and grace of our God through Christ Jesus our Lord?

II. Second, let us notice that his faith was a driven faith.

So, the question is what was driving his faith? Well not really, rather the question is who was driving his faith?

The answer to that question is quite clear. As a matter of fact, it is overwhelmingly clear. God is the One who is behind the king's journey of faith.

It was God who revealed to the Prophet Daniel what the king's dream was and its' meaning. This led to the king's awareness of God's power and wisdom.

It was also God who delivered the three Hebrew men from the fiery

furnace which caused the king to acknowledge that the God of the three Hebrew men alone could save in this manner.

Finally, it was God who revealed through the Prophet Daniel what the king's second dream meant. It also was God who caused the dream to become a reality in the king's life, which caused him to humble himself before the Lord and acknowledge and accede to His power and authority.

So, it is in anyone's life whose faith has become a truly saving faith, they were driven by God to come to that point of repentance and saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6:44).

Now, like with King Nebuchadnezzar, God has shown us many signs, wonders and miracles that He is using to draw us and drive us to humble ourselves before the Lord Jesus Christ and submit our lives to His power and authority over our lives.

You ask what signs, wonders and miracles are you referring to? The Word of God is filled with them from Genesis to Revelation. But most particularly the miracles of Christ Jesus our Lord. He healed the sick; cast out demons; raised the dead and ultimately came up out of the grave Himself on the third day after. He was laid in the grave. He proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that He alone is the Lord, the Savior and the Son of God. Let us let them be driven to Him with humility and faith.

III. Third, let us notice that his faith was a directed faith.

Now, we've already seen that it was God who did all the signs and wonders which drove him to his faith in God.

However, God also chose the Prophet Daniel and the three Hebrew men to be a part of developing the king's faith. It was their faith that helped to direct his faith toward the Lord. The king saw in them that a person could have absolute faith and trust in God.

It was the courage, commitment and conviction of Daniel and the three Hebrew men that spoke loudly to the king. The fact that they were willing to even die for their faith caused the king to understand that there must be something real about their God.

Now, we need to ask ourselves the question, is our own faith full of courage, commitment and conviction to the point that it is influencing others to consider trusting in Christ as their Lord and Savior? Will there be people in Heaven as the result of our influence upon their lives? May God use us as examples of saving faith to others.

IV. Fourth, let us notice that his faith was a declared faith.

After each of the king's experiences with God's signs, wonders and miracles, he would make a declaration about God and His power and wisdom. The first two of those experiences he declared the power and wisdom of Daniel or the three Hebrew men's God. But with the last of those experiences with God he personalized his declaration about God. He declared that it was he that God

had humbled and it was he who was giving praise, honor and glory unto God.

Now, when one has truly found saving faith in Jesus Christ, he or she will declare unashamedly that He has brought you to the place of surrender and submission to His power, grace and forgiveness of your life. Therefore, you give Him praise, honor and glory for all that He's done for you.

Concl. Where is your journey of faith at today? Has your faith brought you to the place of saving faith? A faith that totally surrenders yourself unto the Lord Jesus Christ without reservation. This is where God is seeking to bring us to! So, don't let anything hinder us from getting to that place.

Jesus Loves You

Ralph Lee, Jr.

Celebrating  **176 years of God's Faithfulness**

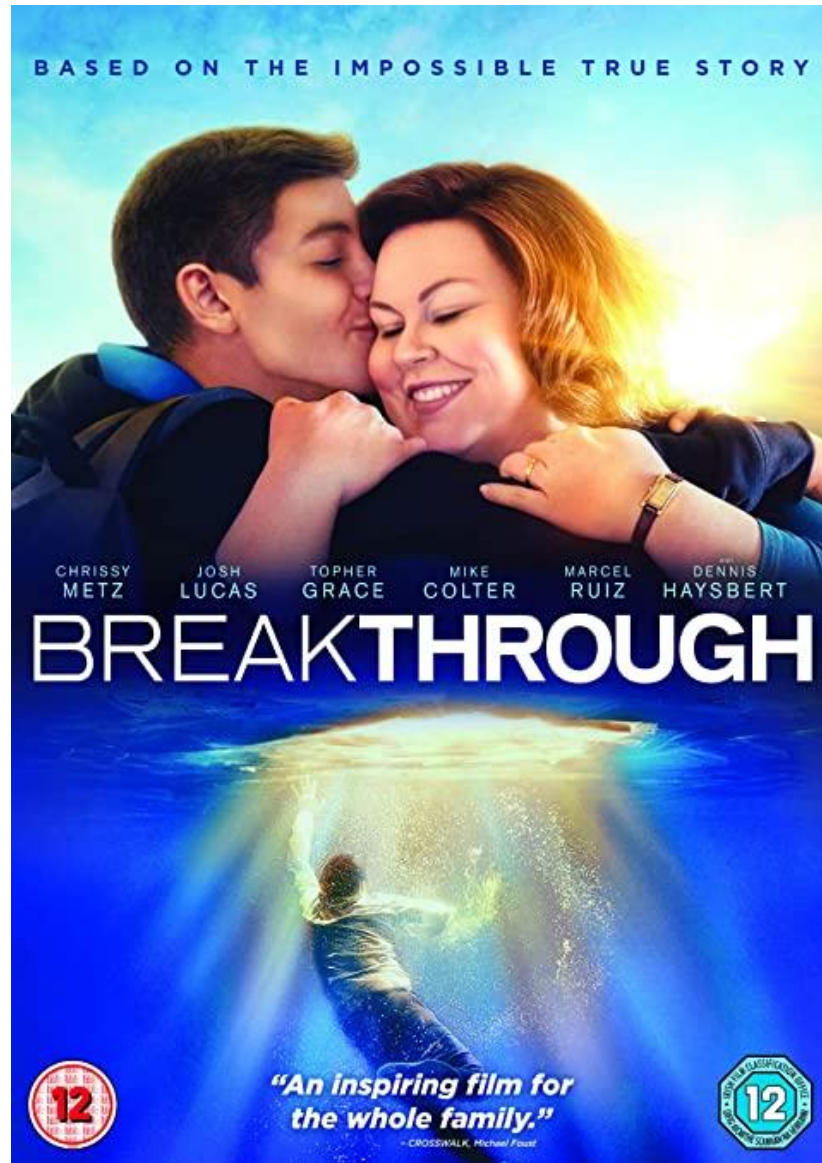
Homecoming

Sunday, October 17th

Guest Speaker: Pastor Kenny Hay

*Church will provide Meat & Beverages
Everyone is asked to bring side dishes & desserts*

NO Sunday Morning Breakfast



Movie Night

October 24th

Concessions: 5:00 pm

Movie: 5:30 pm

Popcorn & Tea provided

Bring finger foods to share

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



*A gift of \$50.00 has been given to the General Fund
In Memory of Frankie Malphrus By Kelley & Mary Jane Richardson.*



Grandmother's Group

*Cancelled for October
Due to
Senior Celebrator's Trip
To Tennessee*

The Real Christmas Story

*Gillisonville Baptist Church
has invited us to go with them on December 4th to see
"The Real Christmas Story"
Tickets are \$139.00 per person.
Transportation provided by Kelly Tours.
More information to come.*



WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
Suppers

Wednesday Night Supper
Menu

To Be Announced

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





Step of Faith
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

SFCA
After School Helper
Needed ASAP

2-6pm Monday thru Friday
See Donna Carter

Additional Help Needed

For
Wednesday Night's
GA's & RA's

We would like to expand to include Mission Friends.
Youth or adults are encouraged to inquire.
See Kim Malphrus or Diane Thames.

Harvest Fest

Saturday, October 30th

5:00pm-8:00pm

More Details

Next Week



*Coming October 3rd
Something interesting, exciting and fun!*

*October
Items and amounts still needed
or monetary donations.*

Scissors—105

Pencil Sharpeners—421

Glue Sticks—29

Wash Cloths—474

Soap—402

Combs (Boys) - 294

Combs/ Hairbrushes (Girls) - 253

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
*Ernest Blount
Donna Roberts
Jennifer Pitts Key
David Sauls- St. Joseph's*

Surgery / Recovery
*Skylar Saygen
Michelle Rooks
Judy Rogers
Louise McAlhaney
Richard Waitt*

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

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>Scott Boyles</i>
<i>Vera Floyd</i>	<i>Ann Blocker</i>
<i>Barbara Mills</i>	<i>Kenneth & Doby Cleland</i>
<i>Gary Way</i>	<i>Redden & Gloria Tuten</i>
<i>Kenny Smith</i>	<i>Lucille & Ron Degler</i>
<i>Carol Bradham</i>	<i>Red & Helen Malphrus</i>
<i>Diane Hannah</i>	

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

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

Cancer / Treatments

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

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement
Family of

Other Health Needs

*Jane Gorman
Andrew Miller
Lloyd Way
Loony Jones
(Jeffrey Stanley's Grandfather)
Tracey Lake
Annette Mole
Keith Gamo
Telie Ethridge
Pinky Rushing
Phyllis Sutler
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Shelby Green
Karen Phillipi
Bertha Kinard
Ron & Marie Malphrus
Mel Toland
Kenny Hay
Lee Martin
Alexus Busby
Natalyn Mann
Max & Nicole Cole
Lynn Glasser
Mary Kay
Paul Sims
David Raines*

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
Andrea C. Daring-Coast Guard Basic Training*

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*

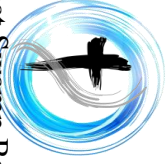
Finance Director: Timmy Sauls.....*greatswampbc@gmail.com*



<i>Thursday</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>Donna Carter</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>8th</i>	<i>Nicole King</i>

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	<i>\$ 2,055.00</i>	<i>\$ 4,982.47</i>	<i>- \$ 2,327.47</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$ 600.00</i>		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Gleaners Sunday School Class</i>	<i>\$ 50.00</i>	<i>*****</i>	<i>\$ 480.33</i>
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	<i>\$ 72.00</i>	<i>*****</i>	<i>\$ 72.00</i>
<i>Wednesday Night Supper</i>	<i>\$ 83.00</i>	<i>*****</i>	<i>\$ 83.00</i>
<i>Repairs</i>	<i>\$ 365.63</i>	<i>*****</i>	<i>\$ 3,065.27</i>
<i>SFCA Security</i>	<i>\$ 123.89</i>	<i>*****</i>	<i>\$ 123.89</i>
<i>SFCA Trash Pick Up</i>	<i>\$ 240.00</i>	<i>*****</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>SFCA Exterminator</i>	<i>\$ 197.50</i>	<i>*****</i>	<i>\$ 197.50</i>
<i>SFCA Liability</i>	<i>\$ 1,217.25</i>	<i>*****</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>SFCA Electric</i>	<i>\$ 3,800.14</i>	<i>*****</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</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