

Great Swamp Baptist Church

God shows his
Love
for us, in that
while we were
still sinners,
Christ
died for us.

ROMANS 5:8
bibleversestogo.com

November 7, 2021

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

The Welcome

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call To Worship

Hymn # 334 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine"

Invocation

Keith Gamo

Selections of Praise & Worship

"Your Words"
"Shout to the Lord"

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

Joyce Gamo

"My Jesus"

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:

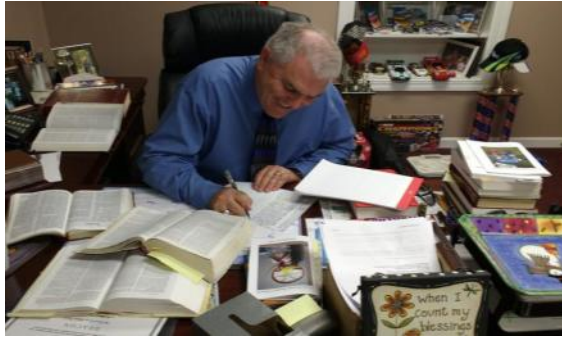
Keith Gamo: 843-986-8525

Next Week:

Freddie Malphrus: 843-816-3204



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



You Ain't Coming Back

Intro: So, this past weekend, people all over the globe celebrated Halloween. Because Halloween itself was actually on Sunday, I decided that for my message we would take a Sunday out of the Book of Daniel and look at the origin of Halloween and how the aspects of it got entangled with the Catholic Church nearly 1,500 years ago. It created, eventually, beliefs and ideas that the church of our Lord Jesus Christ should reject but some haven't. so, let us begin by examining the origin of Halloween and how that ended up in the Catholic Church long ago.

Halloween's roots go back to the Celtic people more than 2,000 years ago. According to my research, the Celtic people set aside this ceremony as a time to honor the end of the harvest and the beginning of winter. Because the harvest had finished and winter was getting started, they also symbolically saw it to mean the ending of life and the beginning of death. Also, to them it stood for the ending of light and the beginning of darkness. So, we can begin to see its' influence on Halloween as we know it today. However, there is a lot more that they did at that time that created Halloween as experienced today.

On the night of the celebration, they would have bon fires, sacrifice food and animals to their Celtic gods. They would also practice divination and fortune telling. They also believed on that night that the line between the living and the dead became, this is so to speak, which allowed for the dead to be able to escape out and move about in some manner to visit back to their homes, villages or friends. So, they would leave extra food around for them in case they visited.

However, they also believed that this line between the living and the dead would allow for evil spirits to escape as well. Therefore to ward off these evil spirits from their homes, they would carve pumpkins and put them in front of their doors.

Now, in 43 AD, the Romans conquered the Celtic people and turned, for them, their celebration in to a time to remember their dead. Then in 609 AD, Pope Bonafice IV established a Catholic fest around this time as a day to remember the Christian martyrs who died for our faith. It was called All Martyrs Day.

Then later on, Pope Gregory III changed it to All Saints Day. A day to honor all the Saints of the Catholic belief who had died. Eventually, this was added, All Souls Day. This all souls day was a day to honor all the dead souls and to pray for the ones who were in limbo, so to speak, in the so called in between place they call purgatory. Also, with this celebration, many Catholics wore costumes which they believed would hide or protect them from the wandering souls of the dead.

Now, as anyone can see the part of the pagans and the Catholic Church with this holiday have greatly influenced the present view of it. Out of the past, we can see where many have come to believe in ghosts, goblins, zombies and therefore the necessary need for divination, witch craft and such to ward off the dead who come back.

Now, what I want to do today with this message is to show how fake and wrong both the pagans and Catholic's point of view of this holiday, especially the view that the dead come back to visit or to haunt you, and also that there is a place called purgatory where some souls go waiting for all prayers on their behalf to get them out and on to Heaven.

My message title is called "You Ain't Coming Back." the Word of God is clear on this point. Once you die and leave this earth, you go to your eternal destination and therefore you can not return here as some kind of ghost, goblin or spirit either good or bad. At the moment of your departure from here, you wake up either in Heaven or Hell and there will be no coming back. So, it behooves us to make the right decision right now to trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior before it is too late.

So, what we will do at this point is to look at biblical teaching of three Bible persons who clearly teach that there is no way you are coming back from the dead to walk among the living.

I. first, let us notice that you ain't coming back because the Apostle Paul said so. (2 Cor. 5:6-10; Phil. 1:19-25).

In this first set of verses that the Apostle Paul is discussing, he is talking about our earthly bodies. In the verses preceding the one we read, Paul reminds us of the frailty of our human bodies, and how much better off we would be in our eternal bodies that we will receive from the Lord for our heavenly dwelling.

However, he then tells us though that not only are our present bodies frail and weak but also while we dwell in them we are not presently in the presence of the Lord. Now, of course, the Lord dwells within us but in that literal sense in which you are able to see Him that will not take place until we go to heaven.

So, then the question arises when will we be in the presence of the Lord in the literal sense? Well, Paul answers that question on our present set of verses. "We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord." (2 Cor. 5:8). Paul is emphatically telling us that when we leave these bodies, we will be home with the Lord. Not drifting around waiting out in some in-between place, or coming back and forth from the grave back to earth. No you will be at home with Jesus. Amen. End of story!

In the second set of verses I chose for this point, personalizes this point of being away from the body and being present with the Lord. He has asked the Philippian Believers to pray for him to be set free from prison where he is serving time for preaching Jesus.

Now, Paul believes that their prayers will be answered and he will be set free so that he can continue on serving the Lord here on earth and helping the Believers here to grow in their faith.

However, Paul is kind of torn apart not really sure which way he would prefer to go. For he realizes that it may be that their prayers won't be answered and instead he might be put to death for preaching the Gospel, and that won't be so bad either. As a matter of fact, he actually says for him it would be better. "for to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far, but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body." (Phil. 1:21-24). So, Paul is saying if your prayers aren't answered and my life taken that too will be more than okay because I will depart and be with Christ. In other words, when I, Paul, die I'm going to be with Jesus, Amen and Praise the Lord.

II. Second, let us notice that you ain't coming back because Dr. Luke says so. (Acts 7:54-59).

Of course Luke wrote the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts. I called him Dr. Luke because he was a physician.

In the text from the book of Acts that we are looking at, Luke tells us about martyrdom of Stephen. Stephen has been preaching to the ruling body of the Jews called the Sanhedrin. He's preaching to them because they have detained him for preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. At some point during the message, the Sanhedrin and the crowd of people listening in became angry with him and began stoning him.

Now, as Stephen was being stoned, he had an amazing view. "But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to Heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look' he said, 'I see heaven open and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God.'" so God gives him a glimpse of where he is getting ready to go and with whom he will be with. He will soon be with the Son of God, Jesus, and with His and our Heavenly Father in glory.

Then just as he was about to take his last breath here on earth, Stephen prayed a prayer. "While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, 'Lord Jesus receive my Spirit.'" (Acts 7:59). A few moments later he died, but his spirit went to Heaven to be with Jesus. Amen. His suffering was over and his praising beginning.

III. Third, let us notice that you ain't coming back because Jesus said so. (Luke 23:39-43; 16:18-23).

Now, I left to Last because someone might say that my first two points are coming from Paul and Luke which shouldn't matter because they were led by the Holy Spirit to say and write what they gave us. But to verify all who are

Reading this, what Paul and Luke tell us about the topic we are adhering Jesus Christ our Lord Himself is in total agreement with what Paul and Luke said about it. As a matter of fact, their beliefs on the subject would have been guided and influenced by what Jesus had to say about it.

The first incident that we are examining when considering what Jesus had to say about it is one of the most familiar set of verses dealing with the subject. Jesus is on the cross dying, of course, for our sins. We know that He was suspended between two criminals. One of those criminals mocked Jesus like the crowd did. He told Jesus that if He were the Christ then He should save Himself and them.

However, the other criminal was completely in total opposite direction of the other criminal. This particular criminal acknowledged his guilt and the guilt of the other criminal. He also acknowledges the innocence of Jesus and actually see Jesus as more than just a mere man because he acknowledges that Jesus will be coming into His Kingdom. Therefore, he saw Jesus as a King, the King of kings. So, he has humbled himself before Jesus Christ, acknowledged his sinfulness and place his trust in Jesus Christ as the King of kings.

So because this criminal has done these things, it therefore leads him to the next logical conclusion and that is if Jesus is King and He has a Kingdom then possibly He will allow me the opportunity to be a part of His Kingdom. So, ask Jesus to remember Him when He (Jesus) comes into His Kingdom.

Now, Jesus' answer has been one of the most joyous and encouraging response found in the Word of God. It has been used, read, quoted more times since Jesus said it than we could ever count. We need to, again one more time, listen closely to what Jesus says in response to this criminal's request. The reason why is because it clearly leaves us no doubt about what happens to us when we die as a Child of God.

Here's what Jesus said, "Jesus answered him, I tell you the truth today you will be with me in paradise." (vs. 42). It doesn't take a lot of research to understand what Jesus said in response to the criminal's request. It is simple, clear and understandable. It simply means what it says. On that very day Jesus said here's the truth you are going to be with me in paradise today, not tomorrow, not next week, next month or next year, not after you've spent some time in purgatory or roaming the earth as a ghost but today.

Now, this same truth applies to all of us. On the very day and actually moment we die, we will go and be with Jesus. Amen. Of course, this applies to the Christians.

Now, for the second Scripture I chose for us to consider what Jesus had to say about the topic, we will see that Jesus not only tells us where the Christian goes when they depart their bodies but also where the non-believers go at the moment of death.

You see, someone might say well although Believers in Christ, as we've seen, depart immediately and go to be with Christ and there don't come back in some manner. But what about the non-believers, maybe they come back and roam about as ghosts or goblins.

Well Jesus answers that question right here in this set of verses. In this story, we have an unbelieving rich man and also a believing poor man by the name of Lazarus. They both die and what Jesus reveals to us is where each of them wound up. Lazarus wound up by Abraham's side. In other words, he went to the place where those who had faith in God end up before Jesus resurrected from the grave.

Then Jesus tells us where the rich man ended up. "...the rich man also died and was buried. In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side." (Luke 16:22-23).

So, the rich man died and went to Hell. But there is more to the story that solidifies that no one is coming back from the grave to some how visit the living. The rich man asked Abraham to send Lazarus to him with some cool water to give to him because he was in torment in the flames. However, Jesus tells us what Abraham said in response to the rich man's plea. We will look at part of what he said. "And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us." (Luke 16:26).

Basically, Jesus was telling us from this story you are stuck at whatever place you end up in. Jesus said that it is fixed—can't be crossed over, you are where you are going to be.

Therefore, I'm thankful [praise God that because of my Salvation through Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, when I die I am going to Heaven to be with Jesus and praise God that is where I will be permanently stuck. At which of the two places will you be permanently fixed? I pray that you have repented and trusted Christ so that you will be stuck in glory and not Hell.

Concl. In the life of King David, we are not only told about his successes but also his failures. One of his failures was his adulterous relationship with Bathsheba. Out of the adulterous relationship came a child who was born and became sick. When the child became sick, David fasted and prayed for the child to be healed. For nearly seven days, King David mourned, fasted and prayed. Then the child died.

Now, David totally blew everyone's mind by his reaction when the child died. He got up and bathed himself and went out and worshipped the Lord and had a meal. All of David's servants were surprised at how joyous he appeared to be now that the child had died since he had been down hearted while the child had been sick.

David responded to their surprise of his actions following the child's death.

“He answered, ‘while the child was alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, ‘who knows? The Lord may be gracious to me and let the child live. But now that he is dead, why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me.’” (2 Sam. 12:22-23).

So, we clearly see that the child won’t and can’t come back to him but one day David will go to him. Since we can’t come back here from the grave and since there is no in-between place after the grave to still get redemption, let us make sure we get it right here and now so that we wind up in the glorious presence of Jesus and not in Hell. Prepare to go to Jesus and our believing love ones already there by trusting in Jesus.

*Jesus Loves You
Ralph Lee, Jr.*



Wreaths Across America 2021

Order a wreath for your loved ones.

Cost: \$15.00 each

Cut-off Date: Sunday, November 28th

The list is on the bulletin board on the back wall.



November

Monetary donations for shipping the shoeboxes is \$9.00.

This also includes any teaching materials that

OCC sends with the boxes.

All shoe boxes will be sent regardless
the amount of money that is collected.

Collection Week is Monday, November 15th through Monday, November 22nd.

Monday, November 15th: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Tuesday, November 16th: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Wednesday, November 17th: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Thursday, November 18th: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Friday, November 19th: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Saturday, November 20th: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Sunday, November 21st: 1:00 PM-4:00 PM

Monday, November 22nd: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

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



<i>Monday</i>	<i>8th</i>	<i>Kelly Scherger</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>9th</i>	<i>Amanda Anderson</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>11th</i>	<i>Mason Losgar</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>13th</i>	<i>Alicia Holland</i>
		<i>Bess Parnell</i>



Grandmother's Group

Monday, October 8th

11:00 am

Bring Soups

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.



WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
Suppers

Wednesday Night Supper
Menu

To Be Announced

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



GSBC Prayer Page

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

Leadership

*President / Vice President of the
United States of America*

Hospitals

Surgery / Recovery

*Skylar Saygen
Michelle Rooks
Judy Rogers
Louise McAlhaney
Chance Tracey
Ralph Lee, Jr.
Wanda Davis
Sherri Scott
Emma Scott*

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler-RNC
Wilma Jean McGill-RNC
Bobby Mohn-Indigo Pines HHI
Byron Vaigneur-Assist.
Grace Boyles-RNC
Dot Nettles-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>Alice & 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
Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Wesley Ethridge
Jay Dalton
Raj's Mother*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

Family of

Other Health Needs

*Lloyd Way
Loony Jones
(Jeffrey Stanley's Grandfather)
Tracey Lake
Keith Gamo
Pinky Rushing
Phyllis Sutler
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Shelby Green
Karen Phillipi
Bertha Kinard
Ron & Marie Malphrus
Kenny Hay
Lee Martin
Alexus Busby
Natalyn Mann
Mary Kay
David Raines
Ellen Nettles
Jess & Tabby Arzillo
Charlee Carter
Donna Roberts
Jennifer Pitts Key
Ernest Blount
Stephen Roberts*

Pray For Our Military

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

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$ 4,154.00	\$ 4,982.47	- \$ 728.47
Online Offerings	\$ 100.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Senior Trip (2022)</i>	\$ 75.00	*****	\$ 1,474.38
<i>Harvest Fest</i>	\$ 757.00	*****	\$ 797.00
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	\$ 2.00	*****	\$ 415.75
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	\$ 63.00	*****	\$ 257.19
<i>Wednesday Night Supper</i>	\$ 186.00	*****	\$ 248.39
<i>Special Events</i>	\$ 30.00	*****	- \$ 8.00

Veterans Day Program



Next Sunday



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