

Great Swamp Baptist Church

June 19, 2022

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Call To Worship

Invocation

Bjo Mills

Selections of Praise & Worship

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Worship by Giving
Offertory Special

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction Prayer



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Gerald Boyles</i>
		<i>Gail Malphrus</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>22nd</i>	<i>Betty Robertson</i>
		<i>Angel Cole</i>
		<i>Amanda Hodges</i>

Nursery Workers

Today: Vanessa Smoak
Helpers Needed; See Vanessa



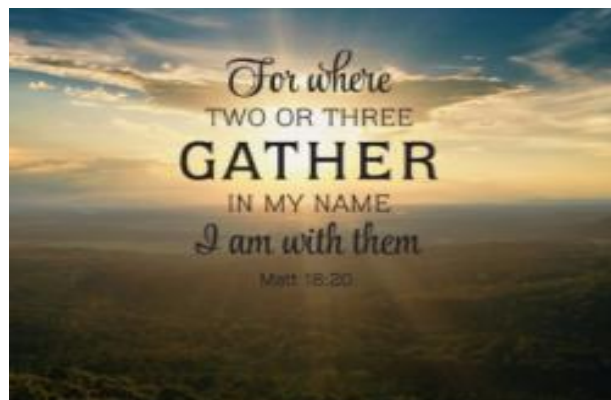
Sunday Mornings

Following

The Song Service

Children's Church

Today: Olivia Stanley/Mason Losgar/Emily Johnson



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

Today:

Bjo Mills: 843-726-4344

Next Week:

Fred Stanley: 843-726-1963



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



The Biblical View on Homosexuality *(Romans 1:18-32; 3:)*

Intro: There is an enormous move across our country to remove all traditional titles, roles and gender. However, these titles, roles and gender are more than just traditional. They are also, and more importantly, Biblical Titles, roles and bender, such as male and female, man and woman, husband and wife and mother and father are all titles, roles and gender established by God Himself as revealed to us in His Holy Word.

Today, however, our society has totally turned its' back upon our Biblical and traditional roles, titles and gender. As a matter of fact, they do absolutely nothing to support, encourage or pass them onto the next generation.

Instead rather they encourage exactly the opposite. They are attempting to normalize what God had declared sexual perversion. From the White House, the Congress, the Supreme Court and many state and local governments, we are being asked to come out with them as they stand up with the LGBTQ community. Both this month and this particular day have been set aside as gay pride month and today as the day this month to have parades and celebrations celebrating the gay movement and lifestyle.

So, if the country as a whole has given into the LGBTQ community and has stopped supporting Biblical and traditional titles, roles and gender, then the only entity left to support, encourage, teach and pass on the Biblical viewpoint on this subject is the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ. The tragedy of it all is that many churches have also given in as well to these perversions and believe it is their God-given purpose to support these evil lifestyles. Thus, may the true Church of our Lord Jesus Christ cower down to no one but in love and for the sake of those who are entrapped by this lifestyle, teach the truth of God's Word on this matter that it might lead to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. We must also teach it to help our young people to know what God teaches on the subject to keep them from falling into this lifestyle.

I. First, let us notice that the Bible's claims against homosexuality.

You can say what you want to say and spin it any way you want to spin it but there is no if, ands or buts about the Biblical view of homosexuality. From Genesis to Revelation, there is not one place in God's Holy Word that speaks favorably or positively toward homosexuality or any other manner of sexuality outside of marriage between one man and one woman. As a matter of fact, the Word of God teaches that sexuality outside of marriage between a man and a woman is not called

merely wrong but detestable and perverted. “Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman that is detestable.” (Lev. 18:22), “If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.” (Lev. 20:13). The familiar event of destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah in the Book of Genesis clearly points out that one of the main sins of these cities that brought about their destruction was their men’s desire to have sex with one another. (Gen. 19).

In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul tells us that, “Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another...God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversions.” (Rom. 1:24,26-27).

Now, some people say all of those verses and events just mentioned don’t count because Jesus Christ the Holy Son of God said nothing against homosexuality when He walked upon the earth. However, nothing could be further from the truth. For on one occasion, Jesus was asked about His view on divorce. The answer He gave was a sweeping answer that covered all the bases on where He stood about gender, marriage and sex. “‘ Haven’t you read,’ He replied, ‘that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female, and said for this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one. Therefore, what God had joined together let men not separate.’” (Luke 19:4-6). Here He states His view on marriage, one woman and one man and here He states His view on sex, “and the two will become one flesh.” Plus through the Holy Spirit Jesus Christ has inspired all of God’s Holy Word found in its’ sixty-six Books.

The Bible has many other references to homosexuality and other sexual deviations, all of which it condemns. Thus in this first point, I want to make sure that we as a church and we as individual Believers understand that God’s Word presents homosexuality and all other sexual deviations clearly and undeniably as a sin against God and thus not to be supported, or tolerated, or encouraged in any shape, form or manner.

II. Second, let us notice that the Bible’s causes for homosexuality.

Now, let me point out at the on set of this point, that there are many reasons stated as to why people choose the homosexual lifestyle, from being born that way; to sexual abuse from their past; to being raised that way and many other reasons are often stated.

However, our authority comes from God’s Word. Therefore, we must present the causes and reasons that it presents as to what makes it possible for this lifestyle to take root in a person’s life and as well as in society. The Word of God gives us those very root causes that allow it to take place.

A. The first cause for homosexuality is our sin nature. We are all born with a sin nature. This is a clear teaching of the Word of God. David said, “Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.” As well Paul said, “Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death came to all men, because all sinned.” (Rom. 5:12).

So, because we are born with a sin nature, there will therefore be a push within us to do that which is sinful and against the Spirit." so, I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desire of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissension, faction and envy; drunkenness, orgies and the like. I warn you, as I did before that those who live like this will not inherit the Kingdom of God." (Gal. 5:16-21). You say well the word homosexuality wasn't included in that list. Oh, but it was because it would be a part of the sexual immorality. So, we are born with a nature that can push us in that direction.

B. The second cause for homosexuality is a cover up. Of course, the question is, what cover up are we referring to? Well, that answer is found in Paul's writings in the Book of Romans. He reveals to us what has been and is once again the most dangerous cover up of all times. For along with this cover up comes the most horrific consequences that results for one thing into homosexuality.

Let us take a look at that cover up from the words of Paul under the Holy Spirit's guidance. "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress (cover up) the truth by their wickedness. Since what may be known about God is plain to them. For since the creation of the world, God's invisible qualities—His eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles." (Rom. 1:18-23).

Now, from those verses we discover that this most dangerous cover up is man's cover up, or as the text "suppression of the truth...", and that truth is the knowledge of God. Therefore, what man does is to cover up to the best of their ability any evidence of God's existence. Because if they can cover up the evidence of God's existence then they want have to worry about being responsible to Him and would be free to live their lives apart from His directives.

However, there is just one problem and that problem is that in order to do that they would have to get rid of all of creation. For our great big and marvelous creation reveals behind an incredible and remarkable Creator. As the Psalmist King David said, "The heavens declare the glory of God; The skies proclaim the work of His hands." (Ps. 19:1).

Even though the creation tells them that there is a Creator, and they know that, they choose to reject what they can see with their own eyes, and cover that knowledge up in order to live out their wicked ways.

This resulted in their minds and thinking becoming futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. So what this means is that because their thinking became futile and their hearts darkened, then their actions and deeds became futile and darkened.

Therefore, because of this direction which mankind has and still is taking to cover up the knowledge of God which has made their thinking futile and heart darkened, god has allowed them to experience the path that this has and is leading them downward further into darkness and further away from God.

The Apostle Paul says it this way, "Therefore, God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie; and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen." (Rom. 1:24-25).

Next, the Apostle Paul tell us that this suppression or cover up of the truth of the knowledge of God even resulted in the perversion of homosexuality. "Because of this God gave them over to shameful lust. Even their women changed natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversions." (Rom. 1:26-27).

Our nation for the biggest part of its' history has for the most part projected a Judeo and Christian worldview. However, in the 1960's, this worldview was greatly challenged and contested. This resulted in the beginning of the cover up of the knowledge of God in practically all of our institutions all across our country. Sadly, it was first felt in our public schools and now so many of them are nothing more than places of indoctrination in this suppression of the knowledge of God. This has resulted in them becoming futile in their thinking and their hearts darkened. Thus they not only discuss subjects such as homosexuality but strongly support it and encourage it. At the same time, they belittle, discourage and punish those who stand up for the truth.

Thus we should not be surprised as we see these perversions and evil ways becoming even more common place for our country as a whole has decided to push God out and when you do that the vacuum becomes filled with sinful ways.

C. The third cause of homosexuality is blindness. This is similar to the last point I just made. The only difference is who is behind the cover up. My last point was that mankind himself is responsible for the suppression of truth.

However, the Bible also tells us of another person who is also promoting cover ups and the suppression of the truth and of course that person is Satan. "Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception; nor do we distort the Word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly, we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our Gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." (2 Cor. 4:1-4).

So, Satan is too hard at work blinding the eyes of this world to the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord. This blindness is helping that downward slope mentioned in my last point.

III. Third, let us notice the Bible's cure for homosexuality (Eph. 2:1-10).

Now, as I said Sunday, there is no doubt that the LGBTQ community will declare that my message is a pure message of hate and the sad news is that not only will they clarify it as hate but also will much of the media and also will much of the government and even more sadder will be that even some churches and denominations will.

However, my message is totally the opposite of what all of the aforementioned groups think and may say about it. This message is a message of love, concern, comparison, redemption and hope.

If I went to a doctor with some serious pain and he examined me and discovered that I had a very serious problem that needed to be addressed or else things were really going to get bad, but he decided that he didn't want to hurt my feelings by informing me that things were bad and he just said good and to go home you will be alright would I

consider this doctor a caring doctor or one who doesn't care at all? Well, the answer to that question is obvious. If he really cared about me, he wouldn't let the fact that he is going to hurt my feelings stop him from being honest with me and telling me that I have a serious condition that could even be fatal. For he know that he must inform me even though it is going to hurt so that we can then begin working on a solution to my problem.

Well, this applies to why I am preaching this message. First, so that I can inform people that homosexuality and all other sexual deviations are a sin against our Holy God, and this may hurt to hear but it is not about hate but rather it is about understanding that it is wrong but there is a cure for it. However, before you can experience the cure you have to understand that you have a problem.

Second, I am preaching this message to not only discover that homosexuality and all other sexual deviations are a sin by that also God has a cure for this and all other sins put together. For the Bible teaches that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. But praise be unto our God there is a cure.

"As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its' desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath." (Eph. 2:1-3).

Now, in these verses we find the Apostle Paul reminding the Ephesian Believers who they were and what they were doing before they were marvelously saved. He said that they were literally dead in their spirit before God because of their transgressions and sins. He said that they had followed the ways of the world and of Satan and that because of this they were disobedient by fleshing out in their thinking and in their actions all those things that are against God and His Holiness.

Praise God, however, that the Apostle put those verses in the past tense and then with the following verses showed who they are now because of the Salvation that they have experienced in Christ Jesus our Lord. "But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realm in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming age, He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith— and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast." (Eph. 2:4-9).

Through the grace, mercy, and love of our God, Paul told the Ephesian Believers that they are now in a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ literally seated with Him in heavenly realms, and that instead of being the objects of His wrath they are now objects of His grace, kindness and His love.

So, what is the cure for homosexuality; sexual immorality, and all other sins? It is the grace of our God. To experience this grace one must understand they are sinful before our Holy God and then cry out in repentance for our sinful ways and then place your complete and total trust in the grace shows to us when Jesus went to the cross of Calvary and took the punishment for our sins which we deserved and then three days later arose victoriously out of the grave in His glorious resurrection. Then, what will happen is that you will be forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ Jesus our Lord. You will be made alive and all things will become new and as Paul said the Ephesian Believers that old life you had will be a thing of the past.

Concl. My prayer is that the church will take this message of grace, mercy, love, hope and redemption and pass it on. For if we don't we will be like all others who are afraid that they will offend people so they want say anything or make it worse by encouraging that which is sinful.

Rather let us be the ones who speak out though it might hurt because it will point the way to finding the cure that only Jesus can offer.

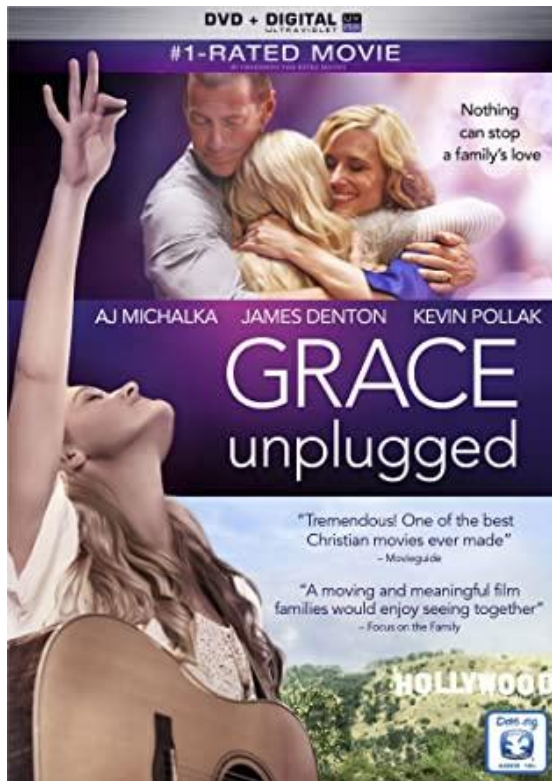
*Jesus Loves You
Ralph Lee, Jr.*

June

This month we are asking for donations of the items below. You can also give a monetary donation if you didn't want to shop. Thank you.



*Tooth Brushes / Jump Ropes
Small Misc. Toys
(NO Military or war related items)
Quart Size Ziploc Bags
Headbands / Hair Clips / Pony Tail Holders*



Movie Night

**Sunday,
June 26th**

Concessions:
6:00 pm
Movie: 6:30 pm
*Popcorn & Tea
provided
Please Bring finger
foods to share*

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
Barbara Solley*

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler-RNC
Bobby Mohn-Indigo Pines HHI
Byron Vaigneur-Assist.
Dot Nettles-RNC*

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

*Shirley Malphrus
Rose Boyles
Judy Smith
Vera Floyd
Barbara Mills
Alice & Gary Way
Kenny Smith
Carol Bradham
Diane Hannah*

*Tom Hinely
Ann Blocker
Kenneth & Doby Cleland
Lucille & Ron Degler
Red & Helen Malphrus
Dot Smart*

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

Unspoken

Cancer / Treatments

*Gail Sims
Skip Brooks
Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Wesley Ethridge
Denita Linton
David Linton*

Ministries

*Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

*Family of
Sue Long
Ralph Smith
Jane Himes' Sister*

Other Health Needs

*Loony Jones
(Jeffrey Stanley's Grandfather)
Tracey Lake
Pinky Rushing
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Karen Phillipi
Marie Malphrus
Mary Kay
Ellen Nettles
Donna Roberts
Jennifer Pitts Key
Wallace Malphrus
Tim Roberts
Myra Malphrus
Chris Blanchard
Mel Toland
Iola Daring
Ron Davis
Lloyd Freeman
BoBe Garbade*

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-Charleston, SC*

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 + / -
	\$ 3,754.00	\$ 4,982.47	- \$ 1,128.47
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$ 100.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Senior Trip (2022)</i>	\$ 225.00	*****	\$ 5,320.64
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	\$ 105.00	*****	\$ 70.56
<i>Bathroom Renovation</i>	\$ 3,548.22	*****	\$ 3,698.22
<i>VBS</i>	\$ 50.00	*****	\$ 564.21

Announcement

Position Available

The personnel committee of GSBC is now taking applications for the position of Administrative Assistant. Applicant must be knowledgeable in Bookkeeping and Microsoft Office. Please give resume to Mack Pope, Sam Mock or Wallace Malphrus or turn into or e-mail to the church office.



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