



Great Swamp Baptist Church

September 18, 2022

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Call To Worship

Hymn #555 "A Child of the King"

Invocation

Keith Gamo

Selections of Praise & Worship

"Celebrate Jesus"

"All Hail King Jesus"

"I Sing Praises"

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

"The Wonderful Cross"

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

Nursery Workers

Help Needed



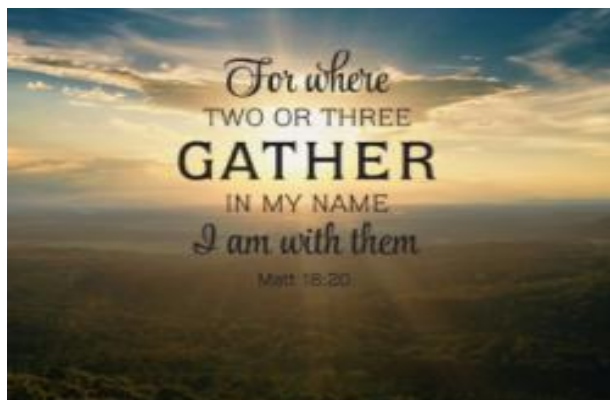
Sunday Mornings

Following

The Song Service

Children's Church

Today: Olivia Stanley/Mason Losgar/Amelia Johnson



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am



DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Today:

Keith Gamo: 843-986-8525

Next Week:

Freddie Malphrus: 843-726-3905



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Staying the Course?

(Daniel 6:1-28)

***Intro:** Twenty-one years ago on the day I preached this message, 2,977 people lost their lives in three different locations. Sadly since that time many other have lost their lives because of the things they experienced on that day.*

Now we expected that the results of that day would have created a positive response for the church and for a short period of time it did. Church attendance jumped up for a month or two, about six percent overall. People also talked more about religious topics and mentioned prayer to God more often. One other result is that we saw a lot more unity. People laid aside their differences and cooperated together much better. There was even the thought that all of this might lead to a great spiritual revival all around our country.

However there was never that great spiritual awakening and what benefit the church experienced from the events of 9/11 were indeed short lived. As a matter of fact it would be hard pressed to find anyone, but maybe a few who are actively involved in service for Jesus in any church today. Tragically most that were moved by those awful events of that day to start going to church or to return to church soon went back to living their lives the way they were pre-9/11.

I praise my Lord that in my nearly 50 years of ministry and a lifetime of church attendance that there was always those dear Saints of God who never allowed the changing circumstances of life, good or bad, change their walk with Jesus. They always demonstrated for me how to stay the course. Praise God for a mother and father and a church full of relatives that set an example to me of staying the course.

So in this message we are going to examine a man of God who clearly stayed the course even though his circumstances greatly changed in a very negative way. This Man of God that we are looking at is the Old Testament prophet Daniel.

We are examining what is obviously the most familiar event that happened in Daniel's life. This is when he was cast into the lions den. Of course we know why and that's because he refused to change course. The king's new law required that everyone in the kingdom pray to no one but him and to worship only him, but Daniel refused to obey this new law. He rather stayed the course doing what he had always done which was to pray to no one but God. So this message will focus upon Daniel's commitment to stay the course that it might encourage us to do the same in our journey of life as we serve Jesus Christ our Lord.

I. First, let's notice that Daniel stayed the course inspite of the pressure (vs 6-9).

Now prior to their new edict or law Daniel could worship and pray to God without any interference from the government or anyone else. However once the new law had been written and signed by the king, it had the authority of the king and his kingdom 100 percent behind it. To challenge it meant that you had the full weight of the king's authority and his kingdom coming down on you. This was particularly true with the laws of the Medes and Persians, which this particular king was. Once their laws were signed by the king, they could never be altered. You either submit or face the consequences, no questions asked.

With all this pressure coming down on him, what did Daniel do? He did what he had always done. He went home, got down on his knees and prayed to God as he always had. He wasn't going to bend or bow down to the pressure of the king because the one to whom he had always prayed and praised was and is not just king of an earthly kingdom but rather the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He alone was and is worthy of our praise and powerful enough to answer our prayer.

The pressure of our political leaders is turning against the church. They are more and more seeking to make the church fall in line with their values and their laws about worldly matters. May the Lord, like Daniel, empower us to neither bend or bow to their demands but rather stay the course in our walk and service to Jesus Christ.

II. Second, let's notice that Daniel stayed the course in spite of popularity (vs 15-16).

There is only one person that we read that was ever actually thrown into the lions den for disobeying this new edict. Of course, that one person was Daniel. So what does this tell us? What this implies is that everybody else went along with the new edict. It was the popular thing to do and not buck the systems. The truth is that most or at least a lot of folks probably didn't like the new law, but certainly weren't going to challenge it. For they didn't want to stand out and appear to be different from all the rest and have people talk about them and, as in Daniel's case turn, them in.

It didn't make any difference whatsoever to Daniel what everybody else was doing or might think about him, because he chose to be different from all the rest. For he understood that one day God wasn't going to ask him "why didn't you do what everyone else chose to do, but rather did you do what I asked you to do?"

Jesus said, "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life and only a few find it." (Matthew 7:13-14)

So let us stay the course even if it means taking the narrow road because it will lead to life. As a matter of fact, when we chose to go with God we will often have to go against the current. That's exactly what Daniel chose to do and so are we if we are going to stay the course.

III. Third, let's notice that Daniel stayed the course in spite of his position. (vs 1-3)

Daniel was one of three leaders under the king who were in charge of all the other staff and workers in the kingdom. Daniel was so well liked by the king that he planned to soon promote Daniel as the key leader directly under him over everyone else in the entire kingdom. However Daniel's decision to stay the course was not only going to keep him from getting the promotion that the king had in store for him, but would also cause him to lose the current position that he held.

The only position that mattered to Daniel was his position as a child of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The positions and promotions that we hold in this life are only temporary and hold temporary benefits, but the benefits of having the position that we have in Christ Jesus our Lord are up lifting and eternal.

Let's be reminded of the word of Jesus Christ our Lord when he said, "But seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Mathew 6:33). So let us remember that the world and it's positions and benefits will perish, but our position in Christ Jesus will last forever and will keep our giving and giving.

IV. Fourth, let's notice that Daniel stayed the course inspite of the penalty. (vs 7, 8, 15, 16)

When Daniel heard about the new law he knew exactly what the consequences were for breaking the law. It was to be cast in the lion's den. So what that tells us is that the consequences were death.

Yet Daniel went straight home and with his window opened where all could see what he was doing, he did what he always did and prayed to God. He did not fear what death would do to him, because he knew that even if God didn't deliver him from the mouth of the lions, God would deliver him from death itself by taking him home to glory. It's far better to die for the cause of Christ and go to our eternal home than to live for a dying cause with temporary benefits.

Jesus told us that just as He faced persecutors and death, so would we because of our service to Him. He also told us that when He was going away He was going to prepare a place for us so that we could be with Him for all eternity. So let us stay the course because death is not the end. We have a better day coming.

Concl: *Now let me conclude by saying I don't believe that Daniel would have disobeyed the king if he didn't believe in the promises and power of God. He had already seen God fulfill His promises and do so by His Almighty Power.*

So once again, let me challenge us to stay the course because God's promises are real and His power almighty/

*Jesus Loves You,
Ralph Lee*



<i>Monday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Eric Chapman</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>Nathanial Smoak</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>Katie Ford</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>22nd</i>	<i>Alayna Schrader</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>23rd</i>	<i>Sophie O'Connor</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>24th</i>	<i>Ron Davis</i>



<i>Monday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Matthew & Sherri Scott</i>
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****Help Needed****

Wednesday Supper

We need cooks! Please let us know if you are able to help with Wednesday night supper.

Sunday Morning Nursery

Helpers needed in the nursery, if/when there are babies and toddlers in the nursery. Please let us know if you are able to help.

If you cannot physically help, please help by praying that these needs be met.



Nursery



Sunday School Classes

@

9:15am

CAMO CLASS *Room 406* **Leader– Bobby Smith**
.....

GLEANERS CLASS *Room 401* **Leader-Darlene Bollack**
.....

VISIONARIES CLASS *Building 3, Old Social Hall*
Leader– Diane Thames/Greg Mariocourt
.....

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

YOUTH *Youth Annex* **Leader-Amanda Hodges**

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



Donations for September Needed:

Toothbrushes

Wash Clothes

Soap

Combs - Boys

Combs/Hair Brush - Girls

Headbands/Hair Ties

Stuffed Animals

Assorted Toys - Boys & Girls All Ages

You can donate these items or give a monetary donation.

No war or military items. Also no liquids.

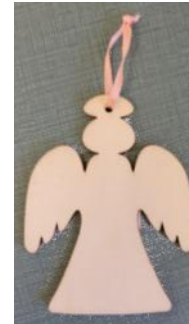
Save the date:

Saturday, September 24th at 10 a.m.—Packing shoeboxes

This will be in the youth annex.

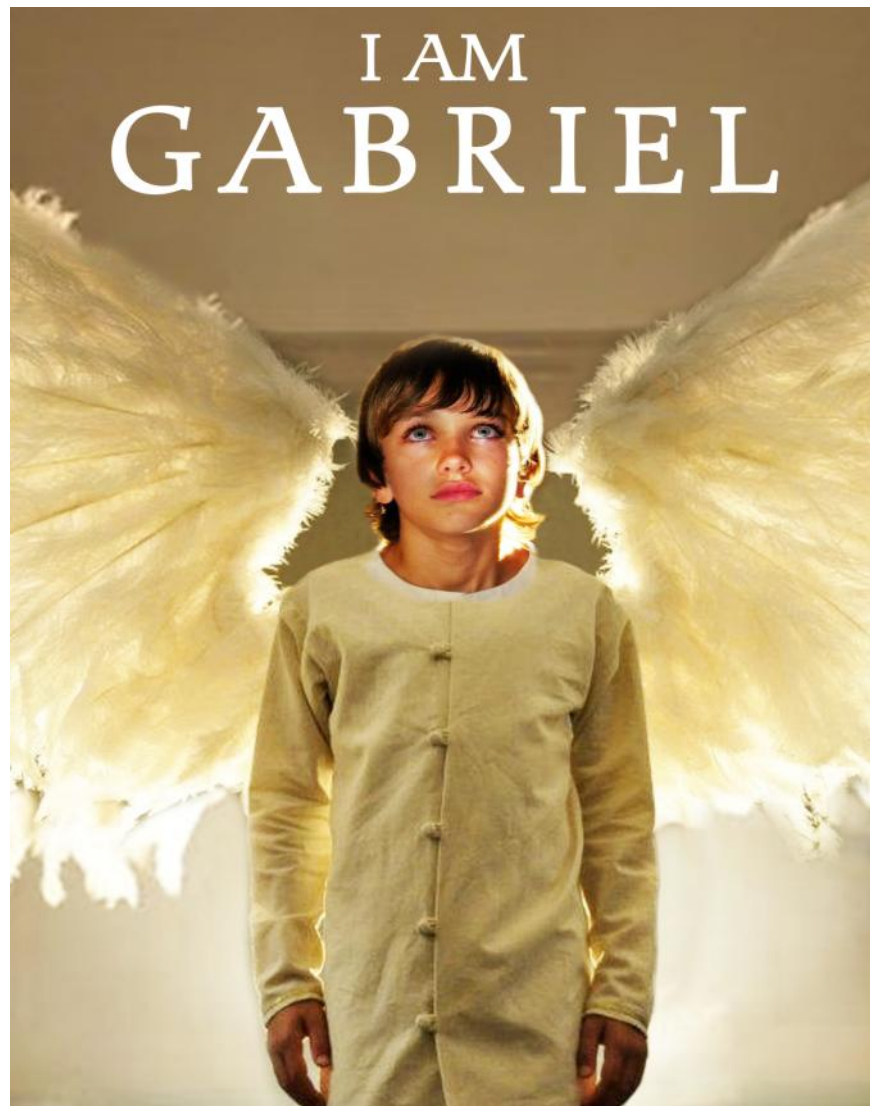
Any questions please see Ms. Dorthie.

**Take an angel from the tree,
flip it over, and you will find an
item we need for the Operation
Christmas Child shoeboxes.
Please note the cost of such desired
item is listed next to it.**



**Please bring the angel back to us
along with your donation.**

Thank you!



Movie Night

Sunday, September 25th

Concessions: 6:00 p.m.

Movie: 6:30 p.m.

Popcorn and Tea Provided

Please Bring Finger Foods to Share!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deacon's Meeting:

This meeting has been canceled for the month of October due to the senior trip coinciding. So please take note that the deacon meeting on October 10th has been cancelled/

Grandmother's Group:

This meeting has been cancelled for the month of October as well due to the coinciding senior trip. Please take note that this meeting, originally scheduled for October 10th, has been cancelled.

Both will resume in November as scheduled.



FINALLY COMING BACK.....

is **Wednesday night supper!** Suppers will start back on Wednesday, September 21st.

The first team to cook is Timmy.

If you enjoy these dinners and love to cook, please let the church office, Timmy, or Keith know as we need more hands to help cook!



GSBC Prayer Page

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

Leadership

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

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

*Family of:
:Louise McAlhaney*

Unspoken

Leigh Laycock

Hospitals

Surgery / Recovery

*Skylar Saygen
Michelle Rooks
Judy Rogers
Chance Tracey
Ed Sheehan*

Cancer / Treatments

*Skip Brooks
Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Lloyd Freeman
Lisa Chandler
Ralph Lee, Jr.
Pat Headley*

Other Health Needs

*Tracey Lake
Pinky Rushing
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Marie Malphrus
Mary Kay Cade
Ellen Nettles
Donna Roberts
Jennifer Pitts Key
Tim Roberts
Chris Blanchard
Mel Toland
Iola Daring
Jane Himes' Nephew
Keith Gamo
Doug & Melanie Hamm
Randy Smoak
Wendy Gray
Dean Daley
Laurie Norman
Rex Norman*

Nursing Centers

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

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

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

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

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: Jennifer Meador.....*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 + / -
	<i>\$ 4,116.00</i>	<i>\$ 4,982.47</i>	<i>-\$ 666.47</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Senior Trip (2022)</i>	<i>\$709.00</i>	*****	<i>\$ 3,021.86</i>
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	<i>\$ 131.00</i>	*****	<i>\$ 316.27</i>
<i>Gleaners SS</i>	<i>\$51.00</i>	*****	<i>683.06</i>
<i>Kitchen Supplies</i>	<i>20.00</i>	*****	<i>45.00</i>
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	<i>25.00</i>	*****	<i>1,786.65</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