



Great Swamp Baptist Church

October 9, 2022

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Call To Worship

Hymn \$483 "Footsteps of Jesus"

Invocation

Fred Stanley

Selections of Praise & Worship

"Blessed Be Your Name"

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special by Mended

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

*Sunday Mornings
Following
The Song Service*

Nursery
Help Needed



Helpers:
Mason Losgar
Emily Johnson

Prayer Group
Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am
All Welcome



DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Today:

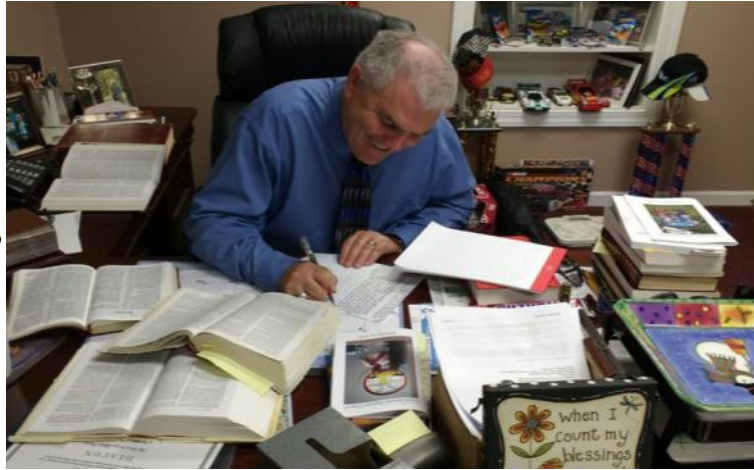
Fred Stanley: 843-726-1963

Next Week:

Mack Pope: 843-540-6636



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



John's Witness to Jesus Part II (John 1:6-37))

***Intro:** In our last message we said that if we really believe that Jesus is coming again soon then we need to urgently get to sharing the Gospel message to people to get them ready for the coming of Christ. To help in doing that I chose for us to examine the witnessing of John the Baptist for John was a dedicated and committed witness for Jesus.*

In the previous message we looked at the methods that John used in his witnessing of Jesus. We noted that he witnessed boldly, openly, continuously, scripturally, and experimentally. Today we will continue our examination of John's witness to Jesus by looking at the message of John's witnessing. The methods we looked at last week were so dramatic in style and the reason why is because of the message that John had to share. So let's allow the message to push our methods to be dramatic.

II. Second, we are noticing the message of John's witnessing.

Now right off the bat let me state that this point is of the most extreme vital importance. It is the difference between heaven and hell. It is the difference between a permanent relationship with God or an eternal separation from God. It is the difference of being accepted with God or being rejected by God. Therefore, we must get the message absolutely right.

Now another important thing about getting the message right is that there is already a lot of false messages out there. The scary thing about many of these false messages is that they have been made to sound as though they are right. In other words, they have just enough of the Biblical account of the Gospel message mixed into their so called account of salvation that to many their messages are no different than the message of salvation that we preach.

However being close and being right are two completely different things. As the old saying is that close only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades. The point is a close sounding gospel is not the Gospel and only the Gospel has the true saving message. So we will look at three components of John's message that he shared while witnessing to the nation of Israel.

A. First, let's notice that John's message was about the person of salvation (vs 6-9, 29, 36).

Two of the verses that we are using for this point John was speaking to his own disciples and possibly to others when he saw a man approaching him, and on another day passing by him, he said, "Behold" or "look" and pointing at the man he said that this man He's "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (vs 29). Now it's extremely important that we notice that John wasn't talking about a group of men or a few men, but rather one man. Of course, we are told who that one man was and who He was was Jesus. So John is telling us that there's only one person who can give us eternal salvation and His name is Jesus. John was agreeing with what Jesus later on said about Himself that He alone is the way, the truth, and the life and that no one comes to the Father but by Him (John 14:6).

So our message in witnessing must focus upon the person of Jesus Christ and Him alone. John shows us that Jesus is such an amazing and awesome person thus no one else is needed to do what's necessary to bring about our total and complete redemption. As a matter of fact he reveals that Jesus and Him alone is qualified to do the work of our salvation and redemption.

Here are some of the things that John says about Jesus in this chapter alone as he witnesses to the throngs of people coming out to listen to him. He said that Jesus was the Light of the World (vs 8). So because He's the Light of the World He can bring us out of the darkness of this world.

He said that Jesus came before him and surpassed him (vs 15, 30). So how did Jesus come before him and surpass him? We ask this question because John the Baptist was both conceived and born before Jesus so how is it possible that He came before? Well, the answer is quite clear then. If Jesus was before John, then John is indicating that Jesus is eternal. Thus, because He is the eternal Son of God he surpasses John as well. So because Jesus is the eternal one He has the power to give to us eternal life.

Next John claimed that Jesus is the Lord (vs 23). So if Jesus is the Lord then that means He's sovereign and because He's sovereign He knows what must be done and He has the power to get it done.

Another thing John said about Jesus was that while he baptized with water Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit (vs 33). Because Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit, Jesus is able to continually dwell within each of His disciples and followers thus keeping us until the day of redemption.

In the next component we will look at another thing John claims about Jesus. But before we do, let us clearly understand from what John has already claimed about Jesus is truly sufficient enough to see that when it comes to witnessing that there's really only one message, one way, and one person to share and proclaim and His name is Jesus. Any other message falls short.

B. Second, let's notice that John's message was about the purpose of salvation. (vs 29, 36).

From the previous point we looked at some of the claims that John made about Jesus but there was one more point that John made about Jesus which seems to be the aspect of Jesus that he dwelt the most on. That claim was that Jesus was, "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (vs 29).

Well the phrase, "the Lamb of God" struck a cord in the heart of most of his listeners. The Jews were raised on hearing from the Old Testament about the Lamb of God. The Lamb of God was always part of their Passover celebration because God told Israel to sacrifice a lamb in each home and paint the blood on the side of their door and on the top above their door. So that when the death angel passed through Egypt the night before they left Egypt he would know which homes to passover. So the Lamb of God was the sacrifice that spared them from death (Exodus 12).

Also the Lamb of God was a familiar phrase for them on a daily basis for they daily offered sacrificial lambs at the temple on behalf of the nation of Israel twice a day for the forgiveness of the sins (Ex. 29:38-42). Then in the Book of Isaiah they would have heard how the suffering servant would be like a lamb led to the slaughter (Isaiah 53:6, 7).

There are many other incidents in the Bible that would stir up the image of the Lamb of God in the hearts and minds of John's audience. However the Bible is quite clear that the blood of bulls, goats, and lambs could never really atone for the sins of mankind. Rather all of the Old Testament animal sacrifices were mere symbolic images of the true sacrificial Lamb of God who of course is the Lord Jesus Christ. His sacrifice on the cross of Calvary is the only sacrifice that can wash away our sins and give us victory over death.

So we must understand that we've got to be truly active in witnessing and sharing the Gospel message because its purpose is to save people from their sins and deliver them from the grave and only the message of Jesus can do that.

C. Third, let's notice that John's message was about the proposal of salvation (vs. 9, 29, 36).

In these three verses for this point John called upon the people to look at Jesus with full attention. Also one of the verses tells us plainly that John was sent for the purpose to get people to believe in Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God. So John's proposal was to the people to give Jesus their full attention and with that full attention believe in Him as their only means of salvation.

Now from other places in the Gospel John called on the people to respond toward Jesus with repentance and faith. So like John, our message that we use to witness to others must include in it an opportunity for people to respond to Jesus by repenting of their sins and believing in Him as their Lord and Savior. Having the knowledge is not enough. Only when a person is willing to respond to the message can they truly be saved.

Concl: *I want to conclude this message with the Words of the Apostle Paul who expresses the very thrust of the message John witnessed and that we must witness. He was speaking to the church at Corinth. "When I came to you, brother, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." (1 Cor. 2:1, 2)*

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph



**American
Red Cross**

**SFCA Red Cross
Blood Drive
Tuesday, Nov 1st
12:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

**You can go online and register in advance if you
would like!**





HARVEST FESTIVAL



Saturday, October 29th
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Trunk or Treat
Hay Bale Maze
Bounce House
Cake Walk
Bingo
Chili Cook Off
Corn Hole
Pumpkin Decorating
Hot Dogs
Snow Cones

**Please see Keith if you are
interested in helping with
Harvest Fest or would like to
have a trunk/booth set up.





<i>Monday</i>	<i>10th</i>	<i>Tom Hineley</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>13th</i>	<i>Rob Smith</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>15th</i>	<i>Chandler Thames</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>15th</i>	<i>Julie Mingledorff</i>

HOME**COMING**

Sunday, October 16th
Guest Pastor: Eddie Malphrus

Please join us for a special service with a meal following. The church will provide the meat and drink, but asks that everyone brings a side dish or dessert.

Come and enjoy fellowship, friends, and food!



Donations for October Needed:

Toothbrushes — need 148

Girls combs/brushes — need 230

Wash cloths — need 300

Soap — need 601

Assorted girl toys (ages 5-14) — need 253

Assorted boy toys (ages 5-14) — need 262

Stuffed animals for boys — need 317

Stuffed animals/Barbies — need 127

*No war or military items and no liquids.
You can donate these items or give a monetary
donation.*

**Packing party Saturday October 14th 9:30
to 11:30 a.m. and snacks will be provided.**

Any questions please see Ms. Dorthie.

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.

Wednesday Night Supper:

Cooks needed! Please see Timmy or the office if you are available to cook Wednesday night or help out in any way.



Grandmother's Group

Cancelled for October due to senior trip. Will resume in November.

SRBA *Annual* **MEETING**

Savannah River Baptist Association Meeting

Sunday, October 23rd

Meal begins at 5:00 p.m.

Service begins at 6:00 p.m.

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



Beginning at 6:00 p.m.
Service to follow at 7:00 p.m.

Team Keith will be cooking!

Come out and have dinner
and fellowship with us!

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



Sunday Morning Breakfast

Begins at 8:00 a.m.
\$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

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

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

<i>Shirley Malphrus</i>	<i>Tom Hinely</i>
<i>Rose Boyles</i>	<i>Ann Blocker</i>
<i>Judy Smith</i>	<i>Doby Cleland</i>
<i>Vera Floyd</i>	<i>Lucille & Ron Degler</i>
<i>Barbara Mills</i>	<i>Red & Helen Malphrus</i>
<i>Alice & Gary Way</i>	<i>Thomas & Erma Cooler</i>
<i>Kenny Smith</i>	<i>Mel Toland</i>
<i>Diane Hannah</i>	

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

Unspoken

Leigh Laycock

Cancer / Treatments

*Skip Brooks
Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Lloyd Freeman
Lisa Chandler
Pat Headley*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

*Family of:
Melvin Cooler
D. P. Lowther*

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
Jane Himes' Nephew
Keith Gamo
Doug & Melanie Hamm
Randy Smoak
Dean Daley
Laurie Norman
Rex Norman
Rose Sheehan*

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 + / -
	\$6,887.00	\$ 4,982.47	+\$1,904.53
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Office Supply</i>	<i>\$360.00</i>	*****	<i>\$375.64</i>
<i>Senior Trip (2022)</i>	<i>\$64.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,536.08</i>
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	<i>\$120.00</i>	*****	<i>\$18.62</i>
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,983.89</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