



HE
has made
EVERYTHING
beautiful
in it's time.

Ecclesiastes 3:11



Great Swamp Baptist Church

April 16, 2023

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call to Worship

Invocation

Keith Gamo

Praise & Worship

Richard Waitt

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer
Worship by Giving
Offertory Special

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery
Help Needed

Children's
CHURCH

Helpers:
Emily Johnson



DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Today:

Keith Gamo: 843-540-6636

Next Week:

Freddie Malphrus: 843-986-8525



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



The Importance of Jesus' Burial **(John 19:38-20:23)**

Introduction:

The Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 15 gives to us in a nutshell the gospel presentation. There are four parts to his presentation. He said, "Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the scripture, that He appeared to Cephas and then on to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born." (I Cor 15:1-8).

In those verses Paul showed four things that made up the gospel presentation. First, part of the presentation was Jesus dying for our sins. The second part was that following His death He was buried. The third part was His glorious resurrection. Fourth and finally was the fact that He was witnessed to be alive following His resurrection.

In this message I want us to examine the second part of Paul's gospel presentation that according to the scriptures Jesus was buried. It's important that we understand the role that His burial played in the gospel presentation. We will examine it from John's point of view.

I. First, let's notice that Jesus' burial was important because it was perceived.

In other words I want us to understand that His burial was seen and witnessed. There were many who witnessed some aspect of His burial. Governor Pilate gave permission for His burial. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus requested for the body of Jesus and actually took it and buried it following the Jewish customs of their day. Then there were the soldiers who came to guard the tomb and finally some of the women associated with Jesus had watched and observed where Joseph and Nicodemus had taken the body of Jesus to bury Him.

So why is it important that we understand that Jesus' burial was observed, perceived, and witnessed by a pretty good number of people?

Well, it's absolutely vital so that no one can claim that Jesus didn't actually die. If He didn't actually die then He didn't fulfill the requirements necessary to forgive our sins, and His words, "It is finished" would be inaccurate.

However, praise be to God that we know beyond any shadow of a doubt that Jesus indeed and in fact died for our salvation and the fact that many witnessed His burial are proof of it. So praise be to God that Jesus died for our sins and paid the price required and His burial amens that point.

II. Second, let's notice that Jesus' burial was important because of its participants.

In our last point we observed that there were a number of persons in some manner involved in Jesus' burial. With this point, I want to primarily focus upon two of them and that's the two who actually carried out His burial, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus.

However, let me briefly mention Pilate the Governor over Judah. He's the one who ultimately gave permission for Jesus' crucifixion and then permission for His burial. Pontius Pilate has been denied by some people as not a true historical person. Although for us as Christians the Word of God is totally inspired by God thus completely accurate. However, just add to what the Word of God says in 1961, a stone was found that came from the time Jesus walked upon the Earth, which had Pontius Pilate's name inscribed upon it, thus verifying God's word and the reality of Pilate. So again when God's Word said that Pilate was the one who gave permission for Jesus' crucifixion and burial you know it's all factual.

But in this point I primarily wanted to focus upon the role that Joseph and Nicodemus played in Jesus' burial. For their actions reveal the commitment and devotion of the two men to Jesus.

Both of these men were members of the very organization that called for Jesus' arrest and crucifixion, the Sanhedrin. But all along they were secret followers of Jesus, and they themselves did not go along with the rest of their colleagues in the decisions to have Jesus arrested and crucified. Not only did they not go along but now they are going completely against the wishes of the Sanhedrin by showing loyalty to Jesus by giving to Him a proper and even honorary type of burial by burying Him in a garden in a tomb that was new and was actually Joseph Arimathea's tomb, who by the way was a rich man. So Jesus as the Old Testament prophesied was buried with the rich.

So these two men, who believed that when they buried Jesus it would be their last time to see Him, demonstrated love for Him greater than many of us who live on this side of the resurrection and know that the grave couldn't hold Him. So how much more should we love Him knowing that He lives.

III. Third, let's notice that Jesus' burial was important because of its purposes.

So what were the reasons that Jesus was buried? Well, first as already noted, Jesus' death was required to accomplish our eternal salvation. Therefore, His burial was a necessary proof that He actually had died.

Second, His burial was essential in order to fulfill the scriptures. As we noted in the introduction Paul said that the gospel message was Jesus' death, burial and resurrection according to the scripture, and it's in the Old Testament book of Isaiah where we find the prophecy concerning His burial. "He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death..." (Is 53:9).

The third reason for His burial was to give credence to His actual and literal bodily resurrection. In other words without an actual burial you cannot have a resurrection. But thank God as we've already seen several people were witnesses to His burial. Therefore, when Jesus was later seen to be alive by so many witnesses the only conclusion that could be deducted was that He had indeed and in fact truly risen from the dead, amen!

IV. Fourth, let's notice that Jesus' burial was important because of its place.

John gives us a little piece of information about where Jesus was buried that none of the other three gospels do. And I'm extremely grateful that John shares it with us. So what is that information?

Well, John tells us that in the proximity of where Jesus was crucified was a garden and in that garden was a new tomb where no one had ever been laid before.

Just a day or two before Jesus was crucified He said these words about His upcoming hour for which He had been sent into the world for, which of course was His crucifixion and resurrection. "I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds." (John 12:24)

Jesus is crucified either in or close to a garden. When He died like a seed that is buried so He was buried literally in a garden, but like that seed that is buried and dies so it comes back to life a hundred fold over. So Jesus as well dies and is buried but comes back to life and with that new life produces a crop that can't be numbered from all the lost souls that He saves because He died, was buried and arose.

Conclusion:

The Bible begins in a garden. Jesus is crucified near a garden and He is buried in a garden and resurrected out of that garden. But also, the Bible ends in a garden, that will be our eternal garden. So we must ask ourselves will we have the privilege of spending eternity in that garden that God is preparing? You can by repenting and placing your complete faith and trust in Jesus Christ

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee



On March 20th (a teacher workday) the teachers at Step of Faith met with Jasper County Sheriff's Office for a class on active shooter training. Unfortunately, a few days later the tragic events at Covenant Christian School in Nashville, Tennessee happened. Thus, we have moved our security improvements to a top priority.

Due to financial strains on everyone this year, Step of Faith has not had a fundraiser. Instead, they are asking for each family to donate whatever they can to help fund this need. Specific items can also be donated, as well as work done or work paid for by a group of parents. Anything helps. We absolutely must make our campus more secure for our students, faculty, and families.

You can send donations to the office, pay on Praxi, and/or the school Venmo account (coming soon - see Wendy Gray.) Any questions please see Donna Carter, Wendy Gray, or Jennifer in the church office.

UpdateOn April 17th we will be having a meeting in the Multi-purpose building regarding safety. All comments and concerns are welcome. Parents, teachers, and anyone else is welcome to come.



Operation Christmas Child

April is here and we are collecting new items! See the list below and please help out if you can. The more you can donate, the more boxes we can fill, hence the more children receive boxes. So let's all bring in some hygiene items!

April:

Stuffed Animals

Barbies

Matchbox Cars

Any Assorted Toys

Yo-yos

Puzzles

Balls

Jump Ropes

Remember: NO liquids, glass, or military items. You can also give a monetary donation instead of buying the items. No donation is too small!





<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Lisa Cartin Chandler</i>
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<u>Wednesday, April</u> <u>19th:</u> Keith & Joyce Gamo



Business Meeting
Wednesday, May 10th
at 7:00 p.m.



Deacons' Meeting
Monday, May 8th
at 6:00 p.m.



Grandmothers' Group
Monday, May 1st
at 11:30 a.m.
All grandmothers welcome!



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

Team Timmy* will be cooking!
Come out and have dinner
and fellowship with us!

***Teams have switched for the next two weeks**

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



Sunday Morning
Breakfast

Begins at 8:00 a.m.
Ends at 9:00 a.m.
\$5.00 each or \$15.00
for a family of 4
or more

Sunday School Classes

@ 9:15am

CAMO CLASS - Room 406 - Bobby Smith

GLEANERS CLASS - Room 401 - Darlene Bollack

VISIONARIES CLASS - Building 3, Old Social Hall
Leader - Greg Mariocourt/Diane Thames

SOJOURNERS CLASS - Room 417 - Mack Pope

YOUTH - Youth Annex Leader - Amanda Hodges

BLUE ANGELS - 1ST & 2ND GRADES - Room 415 -
April Malphrus

Wednesday Night Services

@ 7:00 pm

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-Diane Thames



VBS 2023

VBS is currently taking donations of large rocks and towel and tissue tubes. We have boxes/bins in the main foyer to place these items should you have any to donate. We also still need monetary donations as prices have risen and there is a lot that needs to be purchased (especially food). So please help us if you can.

Anything is better than nothing!

Also, please sign up to help out during VBS on the back wall, if you haven't already. If you want to help out but can only come part-time or for a few hours, just write that on the sheet (on the back wall) or talk to Nicole, Saylor or Jennifer about it. Even if you can only help out with VBS for a few hours, WE STILL NEED YOU!! We appreciate any help!

Any questions, comments, suggestions, etc. please call Nicole Mariocourt at 843-726-2211, Saylor Olivas at 843-812-8879, or Jennifer Meador at 843-726-3631.





MOVIE NIGHT!!!

**Sunday, April 16th
Concessions at 6:00 p.m.
Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.**

**Please bring finger foods to share!
Tea and Popcorn provided.**

Come Enjoy A Great Wholesome Family Movie!



BRUCE HEDRICK

Come see him in concert
Sunday morning during morning service
April 23rd at 10:30 a.m.

A flyer for a men's fellowship event. The background is a photograph of five men in polo shirts talking outdoors. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Savannah River
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

**Men's Quarterly
Multi-Church Fellowship**
Thursday, April 20 7:00 pm
Kingdom Touch Ministries

For more information contact
Wilbur Daley at (843) 305-0110

MEN'S
Fellowship

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

Unspoken

Hospitals

Surgery/Recovery

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler - RNC
Bobby Mohn - Indigo Pines HHI
Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe
Dot Nettles - NHC
Karen Malphrus - Encompass (Room 114)*

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>Marie Malphrus</i>
<i>Diane Hannah</i>	

Cancer/Treatments

*Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Pat Headley
Leigh Laycock
Joyce Garbade
Gene Price*

Other Health Needs

*Pinky Rushing
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Mary Kay Cade
Ellen Nettles
Jennifer Pitts Key
Chris Blanchard
Doug & Melanie Hamm
Rose Sheehan
Steve Bailey
Kayla Malphrus
Stephanie Crowe
Dorthie Armstrong
Lewis Hughes
Rose David
Barry DeMay
Tristan Simmons
Marie Coleman
James Williamson
Marie Cole
Glenn Scott
Rhonda Stones
Bill Horry
Gary Way
Patricia Malphrus*

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, Jrjehu27@gmail.com

Music Director: Richard Waittwaittfamily83@gmail.com

Sunday School Director: Mike Davis

Pianist: Michelle Waitt waittfamily83@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Meadorgreatswampbaptist@hargray.com
843-726-3631

School Administrator: Donna Carterdcarter@hargray.com

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$3,404.00	\$ 5,012.49	\$-1,608.49
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Office Supplies</i>	<i>\$30.00</i>	*****	<i>\$674.82</i>
<i>Adult Senior Trip 2023</i>	<i>\$125.00</i>	*****	<i>\$908.94</i>
<i>Wednesday Night Supper</i>	<i>\$175.00</i>	*****	<i>\$207.12</i>
<i>Annie Armstrong Offering</i>	<i>\$62.00</i>	*****	<i>\$372.00</i>
<i>VBS 2023</i>	<i>\$26.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,073.42</i>
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	<i>\$153.00</i>	*****	<i>\$953.27</i>
<i>Gleanors SS Class</i>	<i>\$46.00</i>	*****	<i>\$856.06</i>
<i>SFCA Gym</i>	<i>\$25.00</i>	*****	<i>\$776.83</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