

Great Swamp Baptist Church

November 12, 2023

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee

Call to Worship

Invocation

Keith Gamo

Praise & Worship

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer
Worship by Giving
Offertory Special

Pastor Ralph Lee

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery



Teacher:
Olivia Stanley

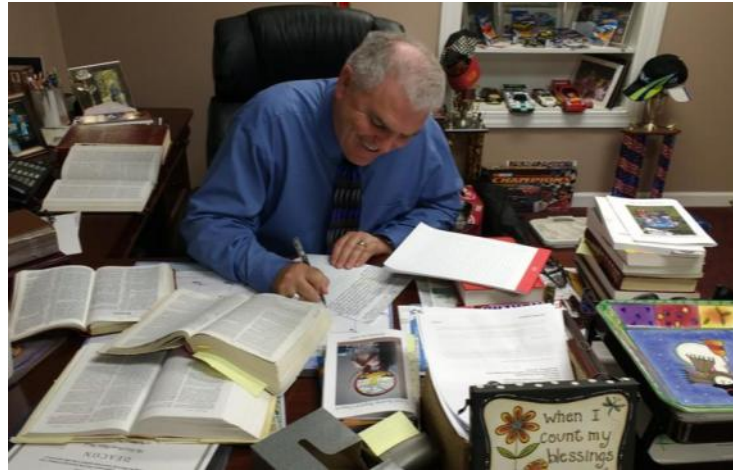
DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Keith Gamo



Phone: 843-986-8525

*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



The Christian's Promise of Victory

(I Cor 15:12-58)

Introduction:

In our last message we looked at an encouraging message in light of what's going on in the world. Well, in the week since that message things in the world have gotten even worse and crazier. We are watching before our very eyes prophecies being fulfilled and we are fully aware of how it all turns out and that it will ultimately be for our good.

However we know that before it's going to get better, it's going to get worse, and it's this getting worse that causes concern for all of us. So my purpose with this message is to relieve our fears because in the chapter we are using for this message the Apostle Paul reveals to us that as Christians we have an absolute promise of victory. "But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (vs 57).

It doesn't say a possible victory or a hope so victory, but rather it speaks as though the victory has already been obtained, and in reality it already has because it's been given to us through the Lord Jesus Christ. So let's take a look at exactly what our promised victory is.

I. First, let's notice that the Christian's victory is the promise of a resurrection (vs 12-22, 55-56)

These verses assure us that death is not the end for a child of God. It is not the place of our permanent abode. For in Christ we have the total and absolute assurance that every born again believer who dies will be resurrected. As a matter of fact we've all been given this assurance of resurrection even if we don't die.

Now the reason why the promise of the Christian resurrection is an absolute assurance is because of its connection to Jesus Christ our Lord. In other words Christ has done everything necessary to make it possible for us to come up out of the grave. In our introduction the opening verse we used says that the victory God has given to us has come through our Lord Jesus Christ, and the verses that we are looking at for this point shows us that it's all about our connection to Jesus and what He's done for us.

First, what Jesus did was to take care of our sin problem. Sin is what brought about our need to be resurrected because the consequence of sin is death.

However by going to Calvary's cross, Jesus bore the suffering that we deserved for sinning against our holy God. He took the wrath of God upon Himself so that we would not have to. He paid the full and complete price required to obtain the forgiveness of our sins.

Second, Jesus not only dealt with our sin problem that leads us to death, but then He dealt with our death problem. The way He dealt with that was to resurrect Himself up out of the grave on the third day following His crucifixion. "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes as through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive." (vs 20, 21).

So we come up out of the grave because He came up out of the grave. And though we didn't read the first set of verses in this chapter we will remind ourselves that those verse tell us that Jesus' resurrection is an assured fact because of the many, many witnesses who saw Him following His burial. So once again because of our connection to Him, since He arose, praise the Lord, so will we.

Jesus said it best to Martha just before He resurrected Lazarus from the grave. "Jesus said to her I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25, 26). My prayer is that you do.

II. Second, let's notice that the Christian victory is the promise of a resurrection body (vs 35-49, 53-54).

One of Paul's verses found in his second letter to the Corinthians is one of those most quoted verses at funerals. It says, "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." (2 Cor 5:8 KJV). It's obvious what this verse is telling us. It's telling us that the moment a believer dies he will go immediately into the presence of the Lord.

On another occasion in his letter to the Philippians Paul expresses the same sentiment as the above verse. He said, "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I 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). Thus, Paul was expressing to the Philippians that while he was in his body he could minister to them, but whenever he would leave his body he would then be with Christ Jesus our Lord which would be far better.

So then what is it that goes immediately to be with our Lord when we die? Well, one thing is for sure it's not our bodies for they are placed in the grave. Thus, we know that it's our spirits and souls that immediately depart when we die to be with Jesus.

However, praise be to our Lord that the verses we are examining for this point assure us that a day is coming in which our bodies will be resurrected and changed into a body unlike the one that was placed in the grave.

Paul uses a farming illustration to show that our bodies will be resurrected, and will be different than what they were in the grave. "But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come? How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. But God gives it a body as He has determined, and to each kind of seed it gives its own body." (vs 35-38).

So the question is what kind of body is it that God will give us when He resurrects us from the grave? Well, Paul gives us that answer both in our present verses as well as in other places.

First, let's see what kind of body Paul tells us that we will have in our present set of verses. "So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body." (vs 42-43).

"For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." (15:53-54).

So from these verses we see that our resurrected bodies will not be subject to all the curses and consequences that are attached to our physical bodies subject to our old sin nature and fallen world. We will experience what John wrote near the end of Revelation after Christ had returned and established His millennial reign here on earth. He said of us that "...and God Himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." (Rev 21:3-5).

Paul tells us in his letter to the Philippians that our resurrected bodies are really in for a treat because of whom they will be fashioned after. "But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power Him to bring everything under His control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body." (Phil 3:20-21). Amen and hallelujah when we resurrect up out of the grave we will be given a body fashioned like the one Christ resurrected with. Oh, what a victory we will have!

III. Third, let's notice that Christian victory is the promise of a resurrection order (vs 23-28, 50-55)

Now the purpose of this point is to show that our Lord has a specific scheduling for the various resurrection that He will be carrying out. In other words, God doesn't just have one resurrection for everyone. Rather the scriptures seem to reveal that there will be as many as four or five different ones. And truthfully Bible scholars vary in their interpretation of when each will take place.

Now in my mind there is absolutely no doubt whatsoever about the first two. But then those that follow certainly seem to have varying possibilities.

The first of the two I referred to is Christ's own resurrection from the dead. Paul said it this way, "But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits..." (vs 23). "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep." (vs 20). Christ's resurrection had to be preeminent thus it had to be first. He alone is worthy.

But then second, no doubt, will be our resurrection. The resurrection of the church in what we call the rapture. "But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then when He comes those who belong to Him." (vs 23).

"Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed -- in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. " (vs 51-52).

However for the other resurrections that will take place there are many different possibilities, but I tend to agree with the viewpoint that Dr. John MacArthur expressed in his commentary of Corinthians. So let me share his point of view.

"Most obvious is that Christ as **first** and that our resurrection will follow at **His coming**. From other parts of Scripture we learn that even the "harvest" will not be all at once, but will have its own **order**, its own sequence. The first resurrection has two major parts -- Christ's resurrection and believers' resurrection. The resurrection of believers, **those who are Christ's**, will be in three stages, according to different groups of believers.

Initially will be the resurrection of the church, those believers who will have come to saving faith from Pentecost to the rapture. "For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first." (1 Thess 4:16). They will be joined by living saints to meet the Lord in the air and ascend to heaven.

Next will be the resurrection of the Tribulation saints. Many will come to trust in Christ during the Tribulation, that unimaginably horrible seven-year ordeal during which many godly people will put to death for their faith. At the end of that period, however, all those who will have come to faith in Christ will be raised up to reign with Him during the Millennium (Rev. 20:4).

Following that will be the resurrection of Old Testament saints, promised by the prophet Daniel: "And many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt" (Dan 12:2; cf. Isa. 26:19-20). That resurrection, I believe, will occur simultaneously with that of the Tribulation saints.

Then during the millennial Kingdom there will, of necessity, be the resurrection of those who die during that time. It is interesting to think that they may well be raised as soon as they die, no burial being necessary. It would make death for a believer during the Kingdom nothing more than an instant transformation into his eternal body and spirit.

The only resurrection remaining will be that of the unrighteous, who will be raised to damnation and eternal punishment at the end of Christ's thousand-year reign (John 5:29). The saved will have been raised to eternal life, but the unsaved will be raised to eternal death, the second death (Rev. 21:8).

Conclusion:

In light of this great victory that we have been given, let us do what Paul asked us to do in the last verse of the chapter to stand firm and give ourselves fully to the work of the Lord.

Jesus Loves You,
Ralph Lee, Jr.



MOVIE NIGHT!!

Showing: Let There Be Light
Sunday, November 19th
Concessions at 6:00 p.m.
Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.



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

Come watch an amazing movie with us!

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

SOJOURNERS CLASS - Room 417 - Mack Pope

YOUTH - Youth Annex Leader - Amanda Hodges

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

Nicole Mauriocourt

Wednesday Night Services

@ 7:00 pm

WORSHIP SERVICE Multi-Purpose Building

Leader-Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

YOUTH GROUP Youth Annex

Leader-Michelle Waitt

SWAMP KIDS Nursery Hall

Leader - Kim Malphrus

AGENDA

Business Meeting

Wednesday, December 13th at 7:00 p.m.

Deacons' Meeting

Monday, December 11th at 6:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting

Every Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m.

Grandmothers' Group

Monday, December 4th at 11:30 a.m.

All ladies welcome!

Swamp Kids

Every Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m.

Men's Ministry Meeting

Thursday, November 16th at 7:00 p.m.



November:

11/12 - Juliette & Mike W
11/19 - Latrelle & Mike D
11/26 - Courtney & Jeff

December:

12/3 - Kim & Richard
12/10 - Juliette & Mike W
12/17 - Latrelle & Mike D
12/24 - Courtney & Jeff
12/31 - Kim & Richard



<i>Monday</i>	<i>13th</i>	<i>Alicia Holland</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>14th</i>	<i>Michelle Waitt</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>16th</i>	<i>David Raines</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>16th</i>	<i>Vicky Roberts Mingledorff</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>17th</i>	<i>Eddie Amason</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>17th</i>	<i>Nathan Olivas</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>17th</i>	<i>Terra Scoggins</i>



**Operation Christmas
Child
Collection Dates &
Times**



Collection Dates & Times:

- Mon, 11/13: 10 am - 12 pm
- Tues, 11/14: 10 am - 12 pm
- Wed, 11/15: 10 am - 12 pm
- Thurs, 11/16: 10 am - 12 pm
- Fri, 11/17: 10 am - 12 pm
- Sat, 11/18: 10 am - 2 pm
- Sun, 11/19: 1 pm - 4 pm
- Mon, 11/20: 10 am - 12 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection

November 13th to November 20th

For more details see previous page

Great Swamp Christmas Family Gathering

Sunday, December 10th during worship service

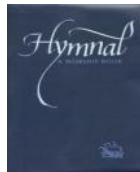
Please bring a dish to share!

No Wednesday Night Service November 22nd





Please continue to bring your old religious church material (Bibles, Christian magazines, books, devotionals, hymnals, old Sunday School materials, and other used Christian Literature) and place them in the barrel in the vestibule. They will be sent out to pastors, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers all over the world to aid them in their ministry. Every item donated will make a difference.



Help us help others learn about Jesus!



Operation Christmas Child

The next two weeks we will be collecting monetary donations for the shipping of the shoeboxes. It costs \$10 per box for shipping, so we are asking that each person donate at least \$10. For the shipping donated, I will scan those boxes so you can "follow your shoebox." This is a really cool way to see exactly where the shoebox you paid for went and where it was delivered. So please donate and let's watch these boxes go around the world!!!

Thank you,
Mrs. Dorthie



Wednesday Night Supper

Meals served from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
every Wednesday night.

**Team Keith is cooking for Wednesday,
November 15th.**

\$5.00 per person or \$15.00 per
family of four or more. No meal deliveries.



**REMINDER: NO WEDNESDAY
NIGHT SUPPER 11/22**





Sunday Morning Breakfast

Breakfast will be served
from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00
a.m.

\$5.00 per person or
\$15.00 per family of
four or more.

GSBC Prayer Page

Church Leadership

Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries
Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor
Richard Waitt- Music Director
Deacons
Church Finances

Leadership

President / Vice President of
the United States of America

Bereavement

Unspoken

Hospitals

Surgery/Recovery

Karen Malphrus
David Raines - Sprenger Rehab
Eddie Amason - Knee Surgery
Vera Miles - Carotid artery

Cancer/Treatments

Revel Crosby - 4 years old
(Leukemia)
Morgan Warren
Ken Lawler

Other Health Needs

Mary Kay Cade
Debbie Hale
Gene Price
Julia Rushing
Pinky Rushing
Amy Hannah
Judy Smith
Kathy Breland
Mr. Williamson - heart attack
Mike Wall
Grace Hetrick
Arthur Pierson
Dwight Malphrus
Clark Daring
Arlette Jones

Nursing Centers

Bobby Mohn - Indigo Pines HHI
Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe
Marie Malphrus - 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>Kenny Smith</i>	<i>Thomas & Erma Cooler</i>
<i>Diane Hannah</i>	<i>Marie Malphrus</i>

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
Schuyler Johnson - Basic Training Marines

Church Staff

Pastor: **Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.** jehu27@gmail.com

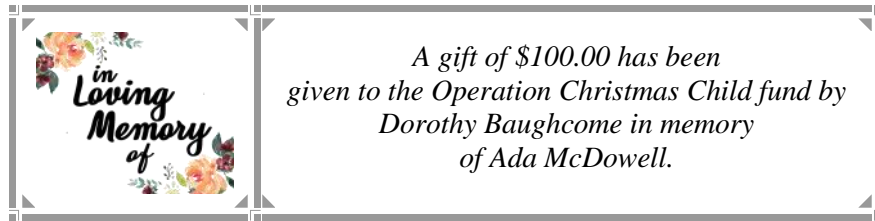
Music Director: **Richard Waitt** waittfamily83@gmail.com

Sunday School Director: **Mike Davis**

Pianist: **Michelle Waitt** waittfamily83@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: **Jennifer Meador** greatswampbaptist@hargray.com
843-726-3631

School Administrator: **Donna Carter** dcarter@sfcaweb.org



Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$3,204.00	\$ 5,012.49	\$-1,808.49
Online Offerings	\$50.00		
Designated Funds		*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	\$74.00	*****	\$985.42
<i>Senior Trip 2023</i>	\$90.00	*****	\$280.07
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	\$355.00	*****	\$255.90
<i>Wednesday Night Supper</i>	\$160.00	*****	\$286.41
<i>Gleaners SS Class</i>	\$56.00	*****	\$1,241.06



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