

*Great Swamp Baptist Church*

*December 3, 2023*

# *Great Swamp Baptist Church*

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

**Announcements**

*Pastor Ralph Lee*

**Call to Worship**

**Invocation**

*Fred Stanley*

**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

---

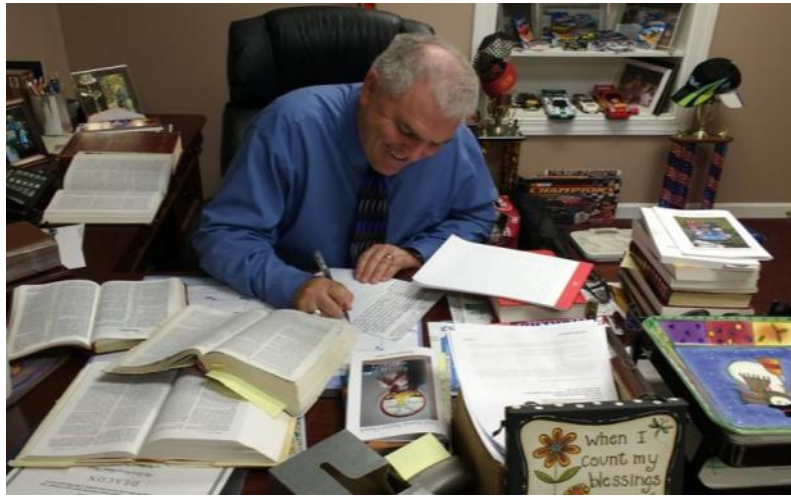
DEACON OF THE WEEK:

*Fred Stanley*



Phone: 843-726-1963

*From  
Pastor  
Ralph's  
Desk:*



### **Jesus is the Rightful Heir to the Throne**

#### **Introduction:**

There are many genealogy websites and here's a list of a few of them: ancestry.com, My Heritage, Finding My Past, Genes Reunited, Legacy Tree, Archives.com, and many more. With so many of these websites available we have become obsessed with our family genealogies.

Well, obsession with our genealogies is nothing new. The Jews have always been obsessed with keeping up with their genealogical records. The Bible is filled with one genealogical record after another, and there were good reasons why God included them in His holy word.

He kept them in His word to show how that He has and will fulfill His promise to Abraham, and all of His descendants. Also to show that He preserved a line through which He would use to bring His glorious Son the Lord Jesus Christ into the world to become our Messiah and redeemer.

Thus with this message we will take note that the genealogy record given in the gospels will prove that beyond any doubt Jesus is the rightful heir to the throne of David. Just as they used genealogies to show who was the rightful heir to certain properties or position. We will use them to show that Jesus is the eternal King who reigns on the throne of David.

#### **I. First, let's notice that Jesus is the rightful heir to the throne of David because of a promise (2 Sam 7:8-17; Ps 89:3-4).**

In these first set of verses King David desires to build a house of worship to God, also known as the temple. However God sends the prophet Nathan to tell King David that he's not the one who is going to build a house for Him, but rather it would be his son.

But though God does not allow David to be the one to build the temple He does assure him at this same time that He would keep a descendant of his on the throne of Israel forever.

“The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.” (2 Sam 7:11-16).

This promise is repeated many times in God’s word but I will mention for now from just one other text in God’s word. “You said, ‘I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David, my servant, I will establish your line forever and make your throne firm through all generations.’”

So there is no doubt that this promise is referring to our Lord Jesus Christ because none of any of King David’s descendants who were on the throne could reign on it forever but Jesus.

We will show in the coming points that in every way and with every detail that Jesus is indeed the rightful heir to the throne, as promised to King David.

## **II. Second, let’s notice that Jesus is the rightful heir to the throne of David inspite of a problem (Jer 22:4-30).**

In our last point we clearly demonstrated that God made a promise to King David that He would keep a descendant of his on the throne of Israel forever. However we are about to encounter a curse from God that seems to nullify the promise He made to King David. Bu we know that God never fails to keep His promise, and when we get to our next point we will see how God deals with the problem and provides an answer that keeps the promise made to David and shows that Jesus is the rightful heir to the throne inspite of the problem.

Now let’s take a look at the problem resulting from a curse. “As surely as I live,” declares the LORD, “even if you, Jehoiachin son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, were a signet ring on my right hand, I would still pull you off. I will deliver you into the hands of those who want to kill you, those you fear—Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and the Babylonians. I will hurl you and the mother who gave you birth into another country, where neither of you was born, and there you both will die. You will never come back to the land you long to return to.” Is this man Jehoiachin a despised, broken pot, an object no one wants? Why will he and his children be hurled out, cast into a land they do not know? O land, land, land, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Lord says: “Record this man as if childless, a man who will not prosper in his lifetime, for none of his offspring will prosper, none will sit on the throne of David or rule anymore in Judah.” (Jer 22:24-30).

Jehoiakim was a descendant of King David who was king over the nation of Judah. But because of his wickedness God both punished him by sending him and his family into captivity and cursed him by refusing any of his sons to ever sit on the throne of David.

Now God indeed carried out both His punishment and curse against Jehoiachin. He and his family were taken into captivity by the Babylonians and the next person put on the throne in Judah, and he was the last king over Judah before the entire nation was carried off into captivity was Zedekiah. He was not a son of Jehoiachin, but rather his uncle. So God was true to keep his punishment and curse against Jehoiachin.

Now this leaves us with a dilemma. How does God keep His promise to King David to have one of his offspring reign on the throne of Israel while putting a curse on the line of Jehoiachin so that his offspring never be on the throne again?

So we will answer these questions in our next point from which we will discover that God had a perfect plan that reconciled both His promise to David and His curse to Jehoiachin allowing Jesus Christ to be the rightful heir to the throne.

**III. Third, let's notice that Jesus is the rightful heir to the throne of David because of God's perfect plan. (Matt 1:6,7:16; Luke 1:31-33, 2:45, 3:23, 31, 32)**

God's perfect plan is that Jesus is the legal heir to the throne through His legal guardians which was Joseph, Jesus's adopted father. But through Mary, Jesus is the rightful heir to the throne as a direct blood descendant of King David which is required by the promise God made to David.

So once again how did God do this since He cursed David's line through the last offspring of David that reigned on the throne and that was Jehoiachin?

Well, in the Christmas story in the Bible God gave us two different genealogies. The genealogy in Matthew's account was Joseph's genealogy, who was Jesus's legal guardian, His adopted father, not His real Father.

Through a few of the verses in this particular genealogy we will see that Joseph was King David's descendent through David's son Solomon. "And Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife, Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa,...and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah." (Matt 1:6, 7, 16).

Now this genealogy was absolutely required to give Jesus legal access to the throne which always came through the father and Joseph was Jesus's adopted father. However Joseph's genealogy came through Solomon, David's son, and Jehoiachin also came through Solomon. So if Jesus had been Joseph's actual son then He would have been ruled out to be the heir to the throne.

John MacArthur said it this way, "The fact is, if Jesus had been the literal son of Joseph, born of his seed, He never could lay claim to the throne of David. He would be under the curse. And yet because He was still the legal son of Joseph, He inherited the right to rule, for He was not under the curse that had been passed down to everyone born in the royal line since the days of Jehoiachin."

However it was also required that Jesus not only have the legal right to the throne but that He also had to be a direct blood line descendent of King David. The way this was accomplished was through Mary's line in her genealogy. First, let's look at some scriptures in Luke's account of the angel's announcement to Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus.

"You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." (Luke 1:31-33)

So the angel assured Mary that God would give to Jesus her son the throne of His father David. This means that since Joseph was not the literal father of Jesus but His legal one, then Mary had to be the blood line descendent through which Jesus is actually related to David without going through Jehoiachin line.

Luke tells us even further that Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem where Jesus was born and of course we all know how this occurred. "So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David because he belonged to the home and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child." (Luke 2:4,5). So they go to Bethlehem because they were descendants of King David who was also from Bethlehem.

Now let me bring this point to a close by bringing us to Luke's genealogy of Christ which comes through Mary. "Now Jesus Himself was about thirty years old when He began His ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son Heli..." Now at first glance one would believe that this genealogy was also through Joseph. However in Matthew genealogy Joseph is the son of Jacob, not Heli. So how do we reconcile these differences?

Well, the answer is that this is Mary's actual genealogy. The reason why it uses Joseph is because back then a father-in-law was also referred to as a father by the son-in-law and the son-in-law was referred to also as the father-in-law's son. Thus Heli was actually Mary's father and Joseph's father-in-law. And what the genealogy shows us is that Mary didn't come through David's son Solomon line which included Jehoiachin but rather she came through David's son Nathan. This means is that because she came through Nathan's line and not Solomon's then Jesus, born of her, would not come through the cursed line of Jehoiachin, Solomon's descendant. This then allowed for God to fulfill His promise to David that He would always have an heir to the throne of Israel, because through David's son Nathan Jesus was King David's actual blood relative apart from the line that had been cursed. Thus, Jesus alone is the rightful heir to the throne because both of Joseph and Mary. Praise God for His name had a perfect plan.

**Conclusion:**

Most important Jesus is the rightful heir to the throne because He's God's Son. Have you surrendered your life to His authority?

Jesus Loves You,  
Ralph Lee, Jr.



## Christmas Card Delivery

\$0.25 per card delivered  
The SwampKids will deliver  
in-house Christmas cards this year.  
Mailbox for cards is in the foyer.

Proceeds go to Lottie  
Moon Christmas offering.



\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Church Family,  
Thank you everyone for your thoughts and prayers for Marie while she has been sick. We very much appreciate the continuous love and support that you have shown us. We are also grateful for the many hospital and rehab visits that were made to visit her and check on her. It was a difficult time, but you all helped us through it. Please continue to pray for Marie and for her doctors. Thank you again. God bless.

-Ronnie Malphrus

*thank you!*



# 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, December 21st at 7:00 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*



**Greeters for Today:**

Kim & Richard

**December:**

12/10 - Juliette & Mike W

12/17 - Latrelle & Mike D

12/24 - Courtney & Jeff

12/31 - Kim & Richard



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>Stephanie Carter</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>5th</i>	<i>Ronnie Nettles</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>5th</i>	<i>Chris Carter</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>Vanessa Smoak</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>8th</i>	<i>Ben Meador</i>



**Monday,**  
**December 4th:**  
 David & Jennifer Meador

**Wednesday,**  
**December 5th:**  
 Chris & Kelly Scherger

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Great Swamp Christmas Family Gathering

Sunday, December 10th during worship service

**Church will provide baked chicken and tea.**

**\*\*Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share!\*\***

## Candlelight Service & Lord's Supper

Sunday, December 24th during worship service

**\*\*No Breakfast\*\* and **\*\*No Sunday School\*\*****

\*\*\*\*\*



**4 Vital Screenings  
for \$149**

- Carotid Artery Ultrasound
- Atrial Fibrillation
- Peripheral Arterial Disease
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

To register for your appointment and receive the special discount, please call

**866-964-1386**

LIFE LINE SCREENING<sub>®</sub>  
The Power of Prevention

Life Line Screening has screened over 10 million people since 1993. Get 4 preventive health screenings in just 1 appointment with Life Line Screening here at the church on December 21st.

Included in the screening are the following: carotid artery ultrasound, peripheral arterial disease, atrial fibrillation, and abdominal aortic aneurysm.

**Don't miss this great opportunity to give you peace of mind.**

**Call today and book your spot before they fill up!**



# Grandmother's Group

Grandmother's group invites all ladies  
for the Chinese Christmas party!

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

**Please bring a covered dish  
or a dessert!!**

Meat and drinks will be provided.

Plan to bring a \$5 to \$10 gift to  
participate in the game and plan to  
stay a while!





## Wednesday Night Supper

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

**Team Keith is cooking for Wednesday,  
December 6th.**

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

No meal deliveries.

\*\*\*\*\*



## 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

*Family of Alma Hughes*  
*Family of Regina Pace Bouye*

## Unspoken

## Other Health Needs

*Mary Kay Cade*  
*Debbie Hale*  
*Julia Rushing*  
*Pinky Rushing*  
*Amy Hannah*  
*Kathy Breland*  
*Grace Hetrick*  
*Arthur Pierson*  
*Clark Daring*  
*Arlette Jones*  
*Jennifer Wall*

## Hospitals

## Cancer/Treatments

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

## Surgery/Recovery

*Eddie Amason - Knee Surgery*  
*Ann Blocker - Sprenger*  
*Healthcare in Bluffton*  
*Erma Cooler - Sprenger*  
*Healthcare in Okatie*

## Nursing Centers

*Bobby Mohn - Indigo Pines HHI*  
*Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe*

## 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>Red &amp; Helen Malphrus</i>
<i>Barbara Mills</i>	<i>Thomas &amp; Erma Cooler</i>
<i>Kenny Smith</i>	<i>Marie Malphrus</i>
<i>Diane Hannah</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 + / -
	<i>\$6,422.00</i>	<i>\$ 5,012.49</i>	<i>\$+1,409.51</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$270.00</i>		
<b>Designated Funds</b>		*****	<b>Acct. Balances</b>
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	<i>\$170.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,617.10</i>
<i>Lottie Moon</i>	<i>\$60.00</i>	*****	<i>\$60.00</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](mailto:greatswampbc@gmail.com)  
Website: [greatswampbaptistchurch.com](http://greatswampbaptistchurch.com)  
Church Office: (843) 726-3631