

*Great Swamp Baptist Church
March 31, 2024*

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee

Call to Worship

Invocation

Keith Gamo

Lord's Supper

Praise & Worship

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery



Teacher:
Olivia Stanley

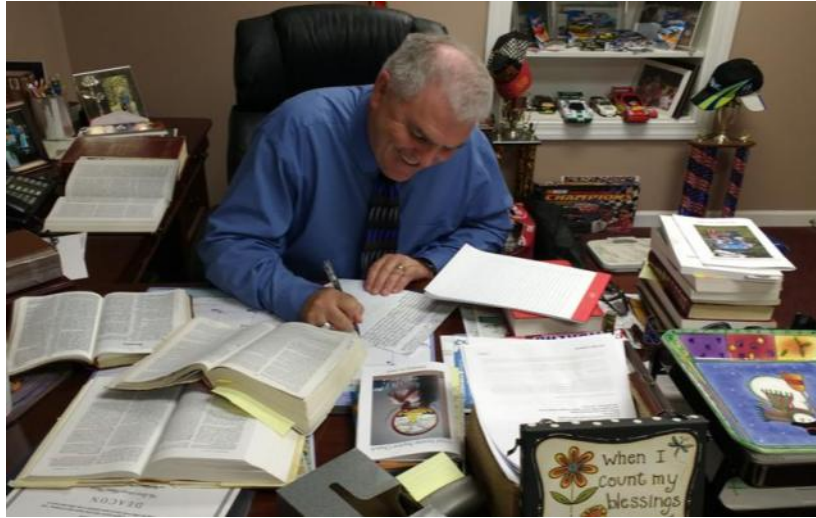
DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Keith Gamo



Phone: 843-986-8525

*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Fixing the Greatest Problem **Galatians 3:1-29**

Introduction:

In this chapter we are going to examine what was the greatest challenge and problem that the Galatians church faced. As a matter of fact Paul actually spends the largest portion of the book dealing with this problem. We are looking specifically with this chapter because it reveals both the challenge and problem as well as the solution.

Now the sad fact is that the same challenge and problem the church dealt with then it's still dealing with it today. As a matter of fact the erroneous teaching that was taking place in Galatia not only permeates our churches today but also Judaism and as well as the world in general. I'm calling this message "Fixing the Greatest Problem."

I. First, fixing the greatest problem requires understanding 'what is the problem?' (vs 1-5).

In this very first verse Paul declares that the church at Galatia has been bewitched by someone. By this he means that someone has come into their midst with erroneous doctrine and has convinced them to believe in the erroneous message.

Now the erroneous teaching was that in order for them to truly be saved they had to do more than believe in the Gospel message that Paul had preached first to them. It was with that message they were saved and became a church.

However the false teachers convinced them sometime later after Paul, that in order to remain saved they had to also keep all of the law of Moses which God had given him. Thus they were teaching faith in Christ plus works. Whereas Paul taught them that salvation was purely faith in Christ alone.

Now let's move into the present and we will discover, sadly so, that once again false teachers permeate our churches, synagogues, and our world with the same kind of teaching. Which is that you are either saved and made right with our holy God by either doing enough good works to convince God to accept you or mixed message that you can be saved as long as you believe in Christ and also do good works by keeping the law.

Praise God of course that there are still pastors, preachers, and churches that are preaching the true Gospel that mankind is saved through faith in Christ Jesus alone. In our next point we will take a look at how Paul goes about fixing this problem that existed in the church then, and will fix it today as well.

II Second, fixing the problem requires understanding 'what's God's plan?' (vs 5-14).

Our God knows the beginning from the end. He knew that our arch enemy the devil would use every means available to bewitch people into believing a lie. Also, of course, He's well aware of mankind's frail sinful human nature that has a heart toward that which is false. Thus God created for His followers dedicated leaders who could properly understand the teaching of God's word so that they could present the true teaching of how God has always planned for His people to be saved. And that teaching is that there has never been any other means of salvation except by faith in Jesus Christ alone. It's never been about faith plus works or works alone.

In the Book of Hebrews one whole chapter alone, chapter 11, deals with the fact that the Old Testament saints were saved and honored for one thing and that was because of the faith that they expressed in God. In our present chapter we have one of the great Old Testament characters and how it was by faith alone that he was credited with being made right in God's sight. And then from that example he shows how that we all are saved in the same way and that example is Abraham.

“So also Abraham believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness.” Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: ‘All nations will be blessed through you.’ So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.” (vs 6-9).

But the questions ring out, didn't God give His law to the nation and demand that they live by His law? Well the answer to that question is a definite yes. However by the same law that we are called to live by we are also cursed by. And the reason why it curses us is because we are not able to fully and completely abide to it because we have a sin nature and to be saved and made right by the law we would have to perfectly fulfill it or we fall short. There's no doubt that we all fall short of keeping His law.

God knew that we wouldn't be able to fully abide by His law, but He had to give it to us so that we could understand that He's perfectly holy and that we are wretched sinners, and we need to be saved by a different means which is by faith in Christ alone

Another question is how it is that faith in Christ Jesus our Lord makes us right in God's sight. It all has to do with who Jesus is and what He did. Jesus left His home in heaven and came to earth taking a human body. As a man He did what we couldn't and that was to perfectly keep God's law.

However Jesus did even more since He was sinless and not cursed by the law. He was able to become the perfect sacrifice who could pay for the penalty of our sins against us He became our curse for us. “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole. ‘He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.” (vs 13, 14).

III. Third, fixing the greatest problem requires understanding of God's promises (vs 15-22).

The fact of this point is that faith in Christ alone as the only means of salvation preceded the revelation of the law given to Moses by God through a promise that He made to Abraham some 400 years earlier than the giving of the law. More specifically, actually 430 years earlier than the revelation of God's law.

Four hundred and thirty years earlier than the giving of the law, God made a covenant agreement and promise to Abraham. That covenant agreement cannot be altered because God made it Himself. And what that agreement was was that through Abraham's seed the whole world would be blessed. Please take note that Paul clearly distinguishes between seeds and seed, one is plural and the other is singular. When God made the promise to Abraham, because of his faith, and commitment to God, he used the singular, not the plural. Thus the promise was referring to one person.

So we must ask ourselves the question who the seed is referred to in the promise? Well, Paul reveals that to us. There's only one person from the family of Abraham who is able to bless the world and that is none other than our glorious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Thus long before the coming of the law there was, is, and ever will be faith in Christ Jesus the promised seed as the one and only means of eternal salvation. This established covenant can never be changed.

"Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe." (vs. 21,22).

Conclusion:

So in conclusion let us have the matter settled because God in eternity past already had a solution for what would become a great problem. But by faith in Christ alone the matter is wrapped up; problem fixed.

So the question is have you settled the matter in your own heart? If not let this be the day that you cry out placing your unwavering faith in Jesus Christ as the only means of getting right with God and eternal life.

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee

Swamp Kids





Spring Break

Monday, April 1st through
Friday, April 5th

“Down by the Creek” Musical

SFCA 1st thru 6th Graders

Friday, April 12th at 12:00 p.m.

Achievement Testing

Monday, April 22nd
Dismiss M-F at 12:00 pm

Muffins for Mom Program

Friday, May 10th
At 8:15 a.m. in MPB

Junior and Senior Prom

Saturday, May 11th
At TBD and Place TBD

Baccalaureate

Wednesday, May 15th
At 7:00 p.m. in Old Sanctuary

Sports Banquet

Thursday, May 16th
At 6:00 p.m. in MPB

Kindergarten (K5)

Graduation

Friday, May 17th
At 7:00 p.m. in Gym

SFCA High School

Graduation

Saturday, May 18th
At 4:00 p.m. in Gym

Sixth Grade “Moving Up”

May 23rd at TBD

SFCA Awards Day

Friday, May 24th at 8:15 a.m.

***Dismiss afterwards for
Summer Break***



<i>Thursday</i>	<i>4th</i>	<i>Nancy Rivera</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>6th</i>	<i>Scott Boyles</i>



Tuesday, April 2nd:
Mike & Wanda Davis

Tuesday, April 4th:
David & Cassandra Bradley

Tuesday, April 6th:
Charles & Bernice Malphrus



Greeters for Today:
Juliette & Mike W.

Next Sunday 4/7:
Latrell & Mike D.

AGENDA

Business Meeting

Wednesday, April 10th at 7:00 p.m.

Deacons' Meeting

Monday, April 8th at 6:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting

Every Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m.

Grandmothers' Group

Monday, April 8th at 11:30 a.m.

****Meet in the parsonage, please!!****

All ladies welcome!

Swamp Kids

Every Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m.

VBS Supplies Needed!!

We need sand, preferably beach sand or play sand. If you go to the beach, please fill a bag and bring it in!



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 417 -

Nicole Mauriocourt

RAINBOW KIDS - 3RD GRADE AND OLDER - Room 415 -

Kelly Scherger

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

Great Swamp Baptist Church
Sunday School Social

We're Having a
COOKOUT

Invite your friends and neighbors so
we can grow our Sunday School



Saturday, April 27th
11:00 am to 3:00 pm
At the church



Church will provide the
hot dogs and hamburgers, fries, tea
and water.

Church members please bring a
side and/or a dessert to share!



Bounce House and
Games for Kids!!





ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING®

The Week of Prayer for Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is March 3-10. The theme this year is "Make Jesus Known." Our church goal this year is \$1,200. For every \$100 given, we will color an Easter egg in the basket. See the back wall information board.



SwampKids is in need of the following items on Wednesday nights:

- 1) small bottles of water
- 2) *snacks such as fruit, fruit cups, fruit snacks, pretzels, Goldfish, cookies, crackers, etc*
- 3) paper products, such as plates, small cups, small zip lock bags, napkins, paper towels, straws, wet wipes
- 4) *monetary donations to purchase craft supplies*

We appreciate your support and prayers. If you would like us to minister to anyone through cards, prayer, etc, please let Kim Malphrus know.

Grandmothers Group Spring Luncheon

Monday April 8th at 11:30 a.m.
Located in the Youth House

Please bring a covered dish or a
dessert to share.

All ladies are welcome, even if
you aren't a grandmother. Bring
a friend and be ready to have a
good time with good people!
Hope to see you there!

Any questions, please call
Jennifer at 843-726-3631 or
Debbie at 843-368-5436





Operation Christmas Child



It's that time again -- time to start our year 'round collection! We've had two months off for the holidays, but now onward to the rest of this year. 600 boxes are anticipated to be packed this year, possibly more if more donations come in. The OCC account is \$0 but good thing we have items left over from last year to get us started! You can donate the items each month from the list or give a monetary donation if you don't want to shop. Let us do the shopping for you!

Here is the list for the month of March:

Washcloths Stuffed Animals
 Toothbrushes Barbies Tennis Balls
 Combs/Brushes - both boys and girls

Thank you for your donations.
 -Dorthie

MOVIE NIGHT!!

Showing: TBD

Sunday, April 21st

Concessions at 6:00 p.m.

Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.



Please bring finger foods for your family and more to share with all!

Tea and Popcorn provided.

Come watch an amazing movie with us!



Wednesday Night Supper

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

Team Keith will be cooking Wednesday, March 27th.

\$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

Unspoken

Hospitals

Surgery/Recovery

Shirley Malphrus

Cancer/Treatments

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

Other Health Needs

Mary Kay Cade
Julia Rushing
Pinky Rushing
Amy Hannah
Kathy Breland
Grace Hetrick
Arthur Pearson
Pete Williamson
Latrelle Steedly
Rodney Malphrus, Jr.
Mark Mingledorff
Bill Carter
Chad Duncan

Nursing Centers

Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe
Tommy & Erma Cooler - Ridgeland Nursing Home
David Sauls - Morrell Nursing Center
Doby Cleland - Life Care Center of HHI
Shirley Malphrus - Bayview Nursing Center

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

Shirley Malphrus *Tom Hinely*
Rose Boyles *Ann Blocker*
Judy Smith *Red & Helen Malphrus*
Vera Floyd *Marie Malphrus*
Barbara Mills *Diane Hannah*
Kenny Smith *Ann Long*
 Tex Lowther

Pray For Our Military

Sgt. Jared Blanton - Deployed
Matthew Mills-US Marines -
Okinawa, Japan
Jericho Malphrus - Sp. Agent/Air Force -
Washington, D.C.
Michael Sottile - Ret.
Tristan Blanton - Louisiana
Andrea C. Daring - Charleston, SC

Church Staff

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

Music Director: **Richard Waitt**

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>\$1,642.00</i>	<i>\$4,923.33</i>	<i>-\$3,281.33</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>		
Designated Funds			Acct. Balances
<i>SMB</i>	<i>\$85.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,028.03</i>
<i>WNS</i>	<i>\$160.00</i>	*****	<i>\$173.99</i>
<i>Annie Armstrong</i>	<i>\$260.00</i>	*****	<i>\$897.00</i>
<i>VBS</i>	<i>25.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,998.18</i>
<i>Dot Lee Scholarship</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>	*****	<i>\$510.00</i>
<i>George Pepper Scholarship</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,920.63</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