



For the
Eyes of the
Lord

are on the righteous,
and his ears open
to their prayer;

1 PETER 3:12

Great Swamp Baptist Church
July 7, 2024

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Eddie Malphrus

Call to Worship

Invocation

Mack Pope

Praise & Worship

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Eddie Malphrus

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

Message

Pastor Eddie Malphrus

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery



Teacher:
Olivia Stanley



Greeters for Today:
Courtney

Next Sunday 7/14:
Kim & Richard

DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Mack Pope



Phone: 843-540-6636

*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



For Such a Time as This
(Esther 4:9-17)

Introduction:

On Wednesday nights we've been preaching through the book of Esther. A few Wednesday nights ago we looked at our last message in the book before we moved on to the book of Job. The set of verses that we examined for the last message are the most famous ones in the entire book. As a matter of fact if a pastor or preacher speaks from this book he will almost always use these verses for his sermon. As a matter of fact for many these verses are the primary reason that this book being the only book in the Bible that doesn't directly mention God's name, was able to find its way into the Bible.

Most people reading this message are aware of the circumstances that are taking place. Haman, second in command in the kingdom of the Medes and Persians because of his hatred for the Jewish man, Mordecai, has decided that he's going to have all the Jews in the kingdom annihilated.

However, Mordecai believes that his cousin, whom he raised, of course, named Esther, who was made queen to bring Xerxes was positioned into her role for such a time as this. Meaning that he believed that God had put her into her role so that she could be used by God to deliver the Jewish people from the wicked Haman.

We, too, need to realize that God has raised us up for such a time as what we are facing. For once again there are many, many people across our globe that want to annihilate the Jews but also Christians. They also want to make right wrong and wrong right.

So it is time that we realize that as Christians God has placed us where we are for such a time as this. I pray that the example of Esther will motivate us.

I. First, let's notice that for such a time as this we need to be shocked and stricken by the circumstances (vs 11-14)

Now according to verse 11 it appears as though that Esther out of fear for her own life had decided that she was not going to get involved with what was taking place at that particular time. She figured that if she did nothing that she herself would probably be okay.

So the question is what was it that finally changed her mind to decide to become involved and do something about what was taking place?

Well, it was the shocking and shattering news that her cousin Mordecai shared with her. He told her that if she did nothing that not only would the Jewish people out in the kingdom perish but she and he would as well.

So the dire circumstances that Mordecai shared with her shocked her to the place where she realized that she no longer could just sit by and do nothing. She realized that the shocking circumstances required that she had to do something or the shocking and dire circumstances were only going to get more shocking and dire.

We too need to be shocked and stricken by the dire circumstances all around us and wake up to the fact that if we do nothing they will only get worse. We also need to see that the most shocking thing is that everyone without a personal relationship with Jesus Christ is headed for a devilish hell and we alone have the answer that can save them. May our God shock us to the point that we wake up and get involved with his work in the world.

II. Second, let's notice that for such a time as this we need to seek out our Christ (vs 15-17)

After being moved to do something because of the shocking circumstances presented to her she knew that she would need divine intervention to be able to get anything done about the dire circumstances she faced. She knew that it would take more than her position as queen to move the king. She knew that she needed the King of kings to move her earthly being to intervene and listen to her in order to get him to change the dire circumstances.

Thus Esther asked Mordecai to get Jewish people all over the Kingdom to fast for 3 days as she and her attendants what is well before she approach the king. Though the word prayer is not mentioned in these verses we know however that fasting is what the Jews did when they were focused upon intently seeking God and prayer over certain matters that had arisen and needed the help of God to deal with them.

Well no doubt whatsoever that the circumstances Esther and the Jews were dealing with, their very existence, truly needed God's wisdom power and guidance to bring about a positive result.

As Christians, in a world right now filled with the most dire circumstances that I've ever seen in my lifetime, are so blessed to have a savior in Lord through whom we have full continuous access to the very throne room of heaven. Where we can boldly seek for the life we need to make a difference in a world with such shocking and shattering news.

"Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." (Heb 4:14-16).

III. Third, let's notice that for such a time as this we need to stand up for the right cause (vs 12-14; 10:1-3)

Now in this entire book it's obvious what was the right cause. It was the very salvation of the Jews from annihilation and that is the very cause that both Esther and Mordecai attempted to accomplish and it's the right cause because God has over and over promised and prophecies Prophesized that he indeed would save and deliver His chosen earthly people. Praise His holy name. He's going to do it again and ultimately bring them to full and complete salvation in Christ Jesus, our Lord. "I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, and in this way all Israel will be saved. As it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins." (Romans 11:25-27).

So the right cause is always for the salvation of all people both Jews and Gentiles. And for such a time as this God has called His church to understand that the only hope for the shocking circumstance we see is to bring people to the saving grace of Jesus who alone can save anyone willing to trust Him from annihilation, from death, from the grave and from hell.

Are we at such a time like these standing up for the right cause?

IV. Fourth, let's notice that for such a time as this we need to speak up with clarity and confidence (vs 14:7:3-6).

There's no way that you can be shocked by the circumstances, seek out Christ, and stand up for the right cause and not speak up. Esther knew that the only way that she could get the king to deal with these dire circumstances was to speak to the king about them. Only once the king could hear about the issue could he respond.

Well, he for sure heard and he heard the concern with clarity and confidence. She told the king that there was a person who wanted to destroy her and all of the Jewish people. Well, the king wanted to immediately know who the man was and right is Haman's presence she told the king that Haman was the vile person that sought to kill her and all of her people.

Now because she spoke up it resulted in the salvation of the Jewish people on this occasion.

So it is in our times such as these if we are going to make a difference we've got to speak up with clarity and confidence. For unless the world hears our message they can't respond in faith. Just as Paul tells us in the book of Romans, "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? -- Consequently faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ." (Romans 10:14, 15, 17).

You can't just say well I'll show them by my actions. Our actions are certainly important but they want to tell the whole story. People need to hear the message before they can respond in faith. For it's the message of Jesus Christ that will cause their faith to arise. So let us like Esther speak up with clarity and confidence.

Conclusion

May it be written or said of each of us that we understood that we knew that our God had placed us here for such a time like these.

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee



MOVIE NIGHT!!



Showing: TBD
TONIGHT Sunday, July 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!
It's even a true story!!!





School starts back at Step of Faith Monday, August 19th!!!

Savannah River
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

MEN'S
Fellowship

Men's
Multi-Church Fellowship
Thursday, July 18 7:00 pm
Great Swamp Baptist Church
9009 Tarboro Rd., Ridgeland

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

SAVE THE DATE
September 14, 2024

Make Jesus Known

2nd Annual WMU Fall Banquet

Look for more details
in upcoming newsletters

First Baptist Church Hilton Head Island
100 South Forest Beach Dr. HHI, SC 29928 | 843 785 4478

Summer



Camp



Arts



Cost: \$50

Get amped for this year's
Summer Arts Camp!

July 22 - 25 | 9:30 AM - 12 PM

Completed 2nd - 6th Grade

This year's Summer Arts Camp will begin with a morning celebration stomp class! After this every child will get a chance to pick two classes from the four (Photography, Ukulele, Drama, and Voice) and share in a time of delicious snacks. Then we'll finish the morning together creating cool designs in art class. So, get those creative brains rolling. It's going to be EPIC!

SIGN UP
BELOW
FBCHHI.ORG



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



MORE THAN GOLD

Senior Celebration

Thursday, August 1

10:00 am

Port Royal Baptist Church

FUN * FOOD * FELLOWSHIP

Tickets—\$10.00

ENJOY—

Funny Skit, Great Music, Door Prizes,

The Best Food, Fellowship, Speaker,

Special Feature

**Sign Up Sheet is on the back wall. Please sign up
if you would like to attend. The church will
provide the tickets.**

**Please Note: Those attending must have their
own transportation or should arrange to carpool
with others. The church will not provide
transportation.**

All Students K4-4th Grade invited

SAVE THE DATE



Hear the salvation
message with



**GET YOUR
GLOW ON FOR
JESUS**

**Saturday,
July 20, 2024
10am-6pm**
Registration
begins at
9:15am

Ridgeland Baptist Church
**Games, Music,
Food, Bible Time**



Operation Christmas Child



Items below are the items being collected for the month of June. Beside the items are the amounts still needed to fill 600 boxes in the age groups. You can also give a monetary donation. Any questions please ask Dorthie.

Boys	Girls
<u>Ages 2-4</u> Socks - 39 Toys - 75	<u>Ages 2-4</u> Socks - 69 Toys - 84 Baby dolls - 45
<u>Ages 5-9</u> Toys - 50 Socks - 52	<u>Ages 5-9</u> Toys - 46 Socks - 57 Dolls/stuffed animals - 89
<u>Ages 10-14</u> Socks - 64 Toys - 68 Matchbox cars - 200 Stuffed animals - 187 Toothbrushes - 414	<u>Ages 10-14</u> Socks - 74 Toys - 62



<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>9th</i>	<i>David Meador</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>13th</i>	<i>Robert O'Dell</i>



Sunday, July 7th:
Paul & Diane Malphrus

W O M E N

O N

M I S S I O

(formerly Grandmothers' Group)



When: July 8th at 11:30 a.m.

Where: the Youth House

Bring: A Covered Dish or Dessert

**ALL LADIES
WELCOME!!**

**YOU'RE
INVITED**

ANNOUNCEMENT

Any man 18 years and older who has been a member of Great Swamp for a year or more and does **NOT** want their name on the Deacon Election List, please contact the church Jennifer at 843-726-3631 to have it removed. Otherwise, it will remain on the list.

This is the covenant that our Deacons adopted for their ministry at Great Swamp Baptist Church. Read it, encourage your Deacons, and vigilantly pray for them.

The Deacon Covenant

We will be accountable to God and to each other. We will ask the hard questions about faith and ministry to this church and will provide honest answers.

We must be men of peace. We will strive to allow the Spirit of Christ to rule in our relationships with our families, with each other, and with the members of our church.

We will be shepherds of the Family of God that worships at Great Swamp Baptist Church. We will be servants in the model of Jesus who tenderly watched over his sheep.

We will be vigilant in our personal life. We will put on the whole armor of God as a necessity to help guard against the attacks of Satan.

We will seek an intimate relationship with God through His Son Jesus. We will try to live a life that is above reproach in speech, love, faith, and purity.

We will support the ministries of this church with our finances, our influence, and with our prayers.

We will partner with the pastor of this good church to meet the spiritual needs of all of our members, our guests, and the community as God leads us.

GSBC Prayer Page

Church Leadership

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

Leadership

President / Vice President of
the United States of America

Bereavement

Unspoken

Hospitals

Surgery/Recovery

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 - Resorts at Beaufort (D wing)

Cancer/Treatments

Revel Crosby - 4 years old
(Leukemia)
Ken Lawler
Barry DeMay
Rachel Vaughn
Bertha Kinard (stage 4
lung cancer)

Other Health Needs

Mary Kay Cade
Julia Rushing
Pinky Rushing
Amy Hannah
Kathy Breland
Grace Hetrick
Arthur Pearson
Rodney Malphrus, Jr.
Mark Mingledorff
Mike Wall
Sage Lanier (2 week old
baby with seizures)
Buzz Bonds
Dean Daley
Earl Dean Pope
Cindy Price (Vicki
Archuleta's sister)

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

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

Pray For Our Military

Sgt. Jared Blanton - Deployed
Matthew Mills - US Marines -
Okinawa, Japan
Jericho Malphrus - Sp. Agent/Air Force -
Pinehurst, NC.
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**greatswampbc@gmail.com
843-726-3631

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

Tithes	Last Week 6/23	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$4,239.00	\$4,923.33	\$-684.33
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>		
Designated Funds			Acct. Balances

Tithes	This Week 6/30	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$2,514.00	\$4,923.33	\$-2,409.33
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>		
Designated Funds			Acct. Balances



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