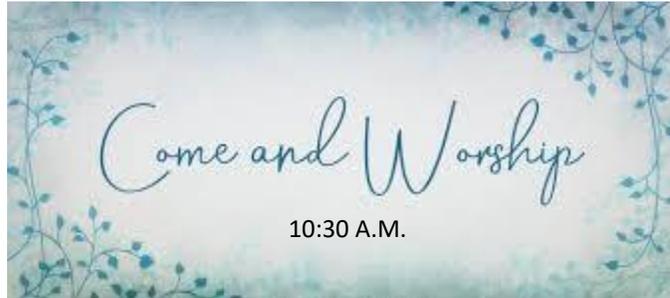


*Welcome*



*Great Swamp Baptist Church*  
*July 13, 2025*

**Great  
Swamp  
Baptist  
Church**



**Announcements**

*Pastor Ralph Lee*

**Call to Worship**

**Invocation**

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

*Chuck Scoggins*

**Worship by Giving**

**Offertory Special**

**Message**

*Pastor Ralph Lee*

**Invitation**

**Benediction Prayer**

**Church Staff**

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

*Sunday School Director: Mike Davis.....greatswampbc@gmail.com*

*Administrative Assistant: June Bess.....greatswampbc@gmail.com*

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

Sunday Mornings  
Following The Song Service:



**Nursery Workers**

For Today:

Next Sunday 07/13



In the school  
office building

Teacher:  
Olivia Stanley



Greeters for Today:

Kim & Richard

Next Sunday 07/13

Juliette & Mike W..

**DEACON OF THE**

*Chuck Scoggins*

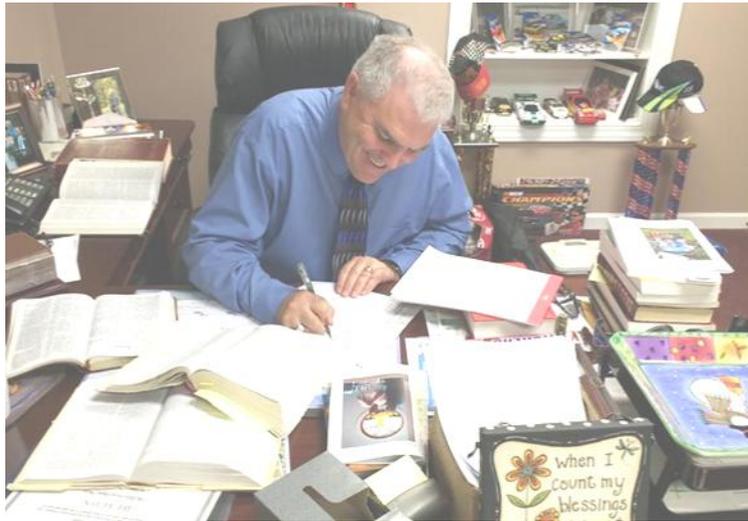


Phone: (843) 816-0483

**NEXT WEEK'S  
DEACON:  
Calvin Bryan**



*From  
the  
Pastor's  
desk:*



## The Signs Say, “Look-up”, Part 2. Matt 24:1-8, 36-15

**Introduction:** Signs are very important tools in our lives. They give us information, guidance, direction, and they also give us warning of upcoming danger or some important concern.

Jesus’ disciples once asked Him about the signs of the end of the age and His return. So Jesus began a long discourse on the signs that point to His coming again. In our last message we pointed out that these signs are no longer signs to tell us that Jesus is coming soon; Rather they are telling us to look up because Jesus is now standing at the door, ready to step right through to call His Bride the Church, up to the clouds to meet Him there, where we will spend eternity with Him and with one another.

So since we see these signs coming to pass with complete fulfillment we need to heed the words of Jesus. *“When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift your heads, because your redemption is drawing near”* (Luke 21:28)

Now in our last message we took notice of three of the signs that are telling us to look up. The first was the

of the nation of Israel. The second sign is the deception taking place in the world. The third one is the sign of world events taking place at a rapid pace.

In this second part of the message we will look at a couple more of the signs that tell us to look up and begin looking at what it is that we are looking for to take place.

**IV The Fourth sign that tells us to look up is the sign of the acceptance of moral depravity.** Matt 24:36-42, Gen 6:5-7, Rom 1:18-32.

Jesus said that when He gets ready to return that everything will be going on as usual. People will be carrying their lives on in the usual fashion, as though nothing is going to take place that doesn't normally take place, such as the return of our Savior and Lord. That's what they were doing the days of Noah, just before the flood came, not expecting it to come.

However, when Jesus said that His coming would come at a time when people were living their lives as in the days of Noah, just before the flood. He not only was referring to the fact that they were living their lives as though no flood would ever come, but they also were living lives of complete, total depravity. The book of Genesis tells us about the moral depravity of the days just before the flood and it sounds much like what we see taking place today. *“The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil, all the time. The Lord regretted that He had made human beings on the earth, and His heart was deeply troubled. So the Lord said, “I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I created and the creatures that move along the ground, for I regret that I have made them. But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.” (Gen 6:7)*

When our Blessed Lord looks down upon us today it's

very clear that it looks to Him as it did in the days of Noah. Isaiah the prophet spoke of these times as well, when he said, *“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.”* (Is 5:20)

Weve opened the closet door an let out everything hidden. Not only let it out, but clearly have welcomed into our world as normal, while making what is normal unwelcome. May our blessed Lord help to open our eyes to this sign that it may cause us to look up and long for the life of complete righteousness.

**V The Fifth sign that tells us to look up is the signs of aggression against the state of Isreal. Eze 38,39**

This point is different from the first sign I mentioned, which was the rebirth of the nation of Isreal. This sign is about the aggression that is coming against Isreal now that they are a nation again. The United Nations has written more negative and condemning resolutions against the nation of Isreal than any other nation on the whole globe. Yet this nation of Isreal doesn't even make up one percent to the worlds population.

Ever since Isreal has become a nation they have had to war against their surrounding nations that attacked them on the day they were rebirthed. But in these chapters of Ezekiel they specifically tell us of a coalition of nations that will come against Isreal in the last days. The main nations mentioned are; Russia, Iran which was called Persia, and Turkey. Also Ethiopia, Libya, and possibly, some believe Germany. Now all these countries are not called by all of the modern names we have given them today, but the ancient names found in the chapters refer mostly to the countries listed above. Well, all you have to do is turn on todays news to be aware that Russia and Iran are already working against Isreal and desire to wipe them off the map. So as we can see, the signs are

being fulfilled in living color before our eyes.

Now there are many more ways that we could look at but for the time being, those are enough that should cause us to get in that watchful stand.

Now I'm switching gears from what signs tell us to "look up", to what are we looking up for? Well what we are looking up for is for the coming of our Blessed Lord to capture His bride, the true Church, out of this old, sinful world to meet Him in the clouds, to spend eternity in our new heavenly bodies, with Him and one another, We call this the rapture of the Church.

Now I believe that the Word of God teaches clearly that the next event to happen prophetically, is the rapture of the church, and not the second coming of our Blessed Lord, which will take place at the end of the tribulation.

So let me state a number of reasons why I believe that's so. First, the primary Scripture for the rapture is 1 Thes 4:13-18. From these verses we are told that this event will culminate with the dead in Christ, and those Christians alive at that time will be transformed and transported to meet Jesus in the air, not on the earth, which is where Jesus comes at His second coming.

I believe that the rapture takes place before our Lords second coming because, not only will it happen in the air, but because the Bible seems to clearly indicate that the church is missing during the tribulation time on earth. In Thessalonians, Paul also tells us, "*and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead-Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wraths.*"(1Thes 1:10)

*"For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ."*(1Thes 5:9) Now that first verse tell us that He will rescue us from the coming wrath. That's a specific wrath that's a

Coming because it has the definite article the in front of it, making it specific, which most evangelical scholars believe to refer to the tribulation.

Another that seems to support the same argument, is found in our Lord's message to the Church at Philadelphia. "*Since you have kept my commands to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the world.*" (Rev 3:10) Jesus was telling the body of believers that when He's ready to pour out the hour of trial on the whole earth, that He will keep them, the true believers from going through that period of time.

Finally, my argument that what we are looking up for, to happen next is the rapture of the Church, because not only are we told that we will be delivered from the coming wrath, which is what the tribulation is all about. But also because the Book of Revelation, which reveals what happens during the tribulation period, found in chapters 6-19, never once mentions the Church. It's all about what God is doing to redeem the nation of Israel ultimately, but first they, and the whole world will experience judgement like never known before.

The Church is not mentioned because she's been raptured out.

**Conclusion:** Let me ask you a question. Are you ready, and are you looking up? Don't be caught living a life that says everything is as its always been and will be. No, my friend, Jesus is at the door, get ready!

## Jesus Loves You!

Ralph Lee



# Prayer

*A man stands tallest  
when he's on his knees*





# Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

## ***Christmas in July!***

*School supplies are the donations needed this month- and they are on sale!*

*Here's what's needed:*

*\*Pencils \* sharpeners \* erasers \*  
scissors \* pens \*crayons-24ct \* 12ct  
colored pencils \**

*construction paper \* spiral notebooks \*  
glue-sticks*

*\*Monetary donations are very helpful  
too!*



*For any questions ask Dorthie (843)258-0573*

\*\*\*\*\*



Great Swamp is hosting Men's Ministry

**July 17th at 7PM**

A meal, fellowship with brothers, and a guest speaker.

Men please invite and bring someone with you!

(They have asked the ladies to please, send desserts)

All the Jewish believers who came who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit has also been poured out on the Gentiles. For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter responded, "Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?"

Acts 10:45-47

## Baptism Service

Great Swamp Baptist Church welcomes, through  
baptism today:  
Nadine Smoak  
Steve Pounder



**IMPORTANT**

*Please read*



**Deacon Election**



**Great Swamp Baptist Church**

is looking to select one new deacon this year. Those who wish their name to be considered for this position must be a faithful member, in good standing , and above all, meets the Biblical qualifications found in First Timothy 3:8-13. If you feel that this is not what God is calling you to do then please contact the church office to remove your name from consideration. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. The vote will be held the second week of August.



**Next meeting will be August 4th  
Details to follow!**







## **Pastor Ralph and Tammy Lee have served 18 years at Great Swamp Baptist Church**

We have all been saddened since he announced his retirement several weeks ago, but we want to show our love and appreciation for them both.

Following the last sermon he is scheduled to preach as pastor of GSBC, July 27th, we're having a luncheon immediately following that worship service. Meat and drinks will be provided, please bring sides and desserts to share.

**PICTURES** are needed for a slide presentation. Looking for pics of events, trips, family, school, church, all of it. You can email, or bring them to the Church office. Also a love offering is being collected for them. **There is a card, (poster) in the Sunday School office, on the desk, for everyone to sign- Please take a moment on your way out today.**





**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT IS BACK!**  
**SUNDAY, JULY 20TH @ 6PM**

What a great opportunity to invite your neighbors, who don't have a church family, to enjoy some fellowship with ours. AND we get to see a great movie! You can bring snacks to share, and as always...

**FREE POP-CORN AND TEA**

Pick up some tickets from the front lobby table and give them away.

# Senior Celebration

**FOOD FUN FELLOWSHIP MUSIC**



***Thursday, August 7th***  
***10:00am***  
***Port Royal Baptist Church***

Tickets: \$10    Deadline: July 24th

GSBC will cover tickets, Sign-up sheet on bulletin board

Call the association office at (843) 726-8294



**Deacon Meeting**

**Monday, July 14th**  
**At 6 PM**

The complex block features a decorative border of small, repeating icons at the top. On the left, the words "Deacon Meeting" are written in a blue, cursive font. To the right, the date and time "Monday, July 14th At 6 PM" are displayed in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The background of the right side is a light blue and white pattern.

**Sunday School Classes**

*Starting at 9:15 am*

**CAMO CLASS:** *Room 406 -- Leader: Bobby Smith*

\*\*\*\*\*

**GLEANERS CLASS:** *Room 411 -- Leader: Darlene Bollack*

\*\*\*\*\*

**VISIONARIES CLASS:** *Room 413 - Leader: Greg Mariocourt*

\*\*\*\*\*

**SOJOURNERS CLASS:** *Room 417 -- Leader: Mack Pope*

\*\*\*\*\*

**YOUTH:** *Youth Annex*

\*\*\*\*\*

**BLUE ANGELS - 1ST & 2ND GRADES:**  
*Room 412 -- Leader: Nicole Mauriocourt*

\*\*\*\*\*

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

=====  
**Tuesday Morning Prayer Meeting**

*Breakfast begins at 9:00 am  
Followed by the Prayer Meeting  
Located in the Multi-Purpose Building*

=====  
**Wednesday Night Services**

*@ 7:00 pm*

**WORSHIP SERVICE** *Multi-Purpose Building*  
*Leader - Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**YOUTH GROUP** *Youth Annex*

\*\*\*\*\*

**SWAMP KIDS** *Nursery Hall*  
*Leader – Kim Malphrus*

\*\*\*\*\*

## GSBC Prayer Page

PRAISE AND GRATITUDE TO OUR GOD FOR THE ANSWERS TO PRAYER WE HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED, AND THE CONFIDENCE THAT WE WILL RECEIVE HIS GRACE AND MERCY!

### Church Leadership

*Sunday School*  
*SFCA-Donna Carter*  
*Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor*  
*Deacons*  
*Pastor Search Team*  
*Youth Program*  
*Worship team*

### Leadership

*President / Vice President of  
the United States of America*

### Bereavement

### Other needs

*Interim Pastor*  
*New permanent Pastor*

### Nursing Centers

*Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at  
South Pointe*

*Tommy Cooler - Ridgeland  
Nursing Home*

*David Sauls - Florence Place  
Assisted Living*

*Doby Cleland - Life Care  
Center of HHI*

### Homebound

*Rose Boyles*  
*Judy Smith*  
*Barbara Mills*  
*Kenny Smith*  
*Shirley Malphrus*  
*Tom Hinely*  
*Red & Helen Malphrus*  
*Diane Hannah*  
*Ann Long*  
*Donald Malphrus*

### Health Needs

*Amy Hannah*  
*Arthur Pearson*  
*Earl Dean Pope*  
*Rachel Mixon*  
*Beth Owens*  
*Darlene Bollack*  
*Bill Carter*  
*Clark Lawson*  
*Red Malphrus*

### Cancer

*Ralph Lee*  
*Revel Crosby - 4 yrs old*  
*Ken Lawler*  
*Rachel Vaughn*  
*Ella Gourlay - 10 yrs old*  
*Paul Holmes*  
*Randy Floyd*

### In Hospital

### Pray For Our Military

*All Leaders of each Branch of our military*

*Sgt. Jared Blanton - Deployed*

*Matthew Mills, USMC- Okinawa, Japan*

*Jericho Malphrus, Sp. Agent/USAF Pinehurst, NC.*

*Andrea C. Daring - Charleston, SC*

*Schuyler Johnson - USMC Basic Training*

*Prayer is the greatest need in our lives as Christians today. The greatest problem solver is a repentant heart and an asking child before our Heavenly Father. Less of me and more of God is a good stance in praying.*

*E.L. Ambrose*

\*\*\*\*\*

Traveling out of town for the week-end?  
 Don't miss a minute of Sunday morning at  
 Great Swamp Baptist Church - Join us by  
 LIVESTREAM on our YouTube channel. You  
 even watch services from Sundays past!



can

[@greatswampbaptistchurch8998](#)

Or on FaceBook at [Great-Swamp Baptist Church](#)

**BUT ...** It would be best of all to see you here!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Stewardship

| TITHES                  | This Week        | Weekly Budget     | Surplus / Deficit |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                         | <i>\$3518.00</i> | <i>\$5,172.63</i> | <i>\$1654.63</i>  |
| <i>Online Offerings</i> | <i>\$510.00</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