

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Sister Gloria Hale has been moved from the hospital to a rehab center.
Mike Parnell's sister, Brenda has cancer and is undergoing radiation.
Charlie Henard's mother is recovering at her home in Tennessee.
Charlie Henard's sister recently had both hips replaced.
Karen Sproles is still suffering with problems in her knee.
Iris Hash is being treated for stomach, nasal and back problems.
Anna Maggard, Ray Sturgill's sister, is in the hospital in Hazard, KY, suffering from lung cancer.
Aletia Sturgill, friend of Ray and Liz, is battling a severe case of COVID and is in rehab in Norton, VA.
Ken and Sherrie Roosa's son-in-law, Darrell Grimes, recently went through additional testing and is awaiting additional information regarding his treatment plan.
Steve, Tim, Liz and their family at the passing of our Sister Beverly Anderson.

Pray For Our Shut-ins:

Gloria Hale, Karen Sproles, Iris Hash

Pray For The Mission Works We Are Supporting:

John Grubb (Mission work in Asia)

Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru)

Ladies' Community Outreach Work:

The ladies of the congregation will be donating items on a monthly basis for the Morgan County Department of Child Services (DCS) to assist in the care of children who have been removed from their homes. For the month of March, the item to be donated is baby formula. If you would like to support this work, please bring this in throughout the month so they can be delivered at month's end.

Monthly Pitch-in:

Our next monthly pitch-in will be Sunday, April 3rd, immediately following the morning service. We will reconvene at 1:00 PM for a song service then dismiss for the day.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, April 6th at 5:00 PM. All men are encouraged to attend.

Radio Program:

Please remember to tune in every Sunday morning at 8:00 AM to WCBK 102.3 to hear our radio program which is entitled: "Preparing For Eternity".

God's Plan For Our Salvation:

1. **Hearing** the word of God (Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32).
2. **Believing** what is taught (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6).
3. **Repentance** (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30).
4. **Confession** (Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37).
5. **Baptism** (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; I Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3, 4).
6. **Faithful Christian Living**, after the above five steps (I Peter 2:11, 12; Rev. 2:10).

March 27, 2022

MORGAN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

**540 E. Morgan Street
Martinsville, IN 46151
(765) 342-6027**



Schedule of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study – 9:30 AM

Worship – 10:30 AM

Evening Service - 6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study – 6:00 PM

Thursday

Ladies Bible Study – 11:00 AM

Radio Program:

“Preparing For Eternity”

Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

Website:

www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

THE BIBLE IS AN INDESTRUCTIBLE BOOK

From a human perspective, it seems amazing that the Bible is still here despite having had more enemies than any other book. Many of its enemies have tried literally to eradicate it from the earth. *Jehoiakim*, king of Judah, tried to destroy Jeremiah's writings by cutting up the scroll on which it was written and burning it (Jer. 36:11-32). *Diocletian*, the Roman Emperor, tried to destroy the Bible when he issued an order in March, 303 A.D. that the Christians turn in all of their copies of the Holy Scriptures, which were to be burned. The Roman Catholic Church has tried to destroy the Bible and its influence by force. [See F.W. Mattox, *The Eternal Kingdom*, pp.224f, 274ff; Sidney Collett, *All About The Bible*, pp.32ff.]. John Wycliffe translated the Bible into English. The Catholic hierarchy forbade the reading or even possessing his work, under penalty of death. Wycliffe died a natural death in 1384, but about 40 years later, his bones were exhumed and burned by order of the Catholic authorities. William Tyndale made another English translation in 1525 which he had to have smuggled into England. Romanists seized and burned thousands of copies of his translation. On October 6, 1536, the Catholic authorities strangled Tyndale and burned his body at the stake. His last words were these: "Lord, open the King of England's eyes!" Tyndale's translation was very accurate. The Bible has been banned in many countries through the centuries, and only recently has been allowed into Russia. It is still banned in China, where about one-fifth of the world's population resides. It is not welcomed in some Moslem countries. Many of the enemies of the Bible have tried to destroy its influence by undermining its teachings. About 176 A.D., Celsus, an avid enemy of Christianity, wrote a book in which he sought to refute the teachings of the Bible. His work, rather than to destroy the Bible, actually preserved many direct quotations from the Scriptures, giving us added proof of the accuracy of the text. Thomas Paine, famous man of the American Revolution, wrote a book entitled *The Age of Reason*, in which he tried to destroy the Bible. He predicted that within fifty years, the Bible would be found only in museums. But his book has all but disappeared and the Bible is being printed in increasing numbers. Just before his death in 1809, Paine cried: "I would give worlds, if I had them, that the 'Age of Reason' had never been published. O Lord, help me! Christ help me!... Send even a child to stay with me, for it is hell to be alone. If ever the devil had an agent, I have been that one." Voltaire, the infamous French infidel, spent his life trying to destroy the word of God. He spoke of Christ as "the cursed wretch." He arrogantly claimed that although it took twelve men to write the Bible (he is wrong about the number), by his single hand he would destroy it. But after his death, his very house was used by the Geneva Bible Society as a distribution center for the Bible. His last words included

this melancholy cry: "I am abandoned by God and man...then I shall go to hell...O Christ! O Jesus Christ!" European philosophers of the nineteenth century tried to work out a systematic method of explaining the Bible on purely human terms. A theory was developed that tried to show that the Old Testament was put together by redactors who weaved a book from various traditional stories and myths. Instead of being the inspired book we know it to be, this modernistic view of the Bible makes it a mere human production, devoid of any authority, and without any reliability. This theory has been adopted by the modernistic religious organizations of our day. Other methods are being employed today that effectively neutralize the teachings of the Bible. Catholics claim that the Bible is only part of the authority God expresses. The (1) decrees of the pope and councils and (2) tradition form the other two legs of real authority; one is as important as the other, in their view. Some try to limit the influence of the Bible by asserting that only certain officials are capable of understanding and teaching the Bible. In this fashion, the common man is kept in darkness as to what the Bible actually teaches. Many people maintain that the Bible was never intended to be a rule-book, that it merely teaches principles that are to be applied as the individual sees fit. This is the basic position of the "new hermeneutics" philosophy. They claim it does not contain any kind of a pattern for us to follow. These and their cousins teach that the Bible is not to be taken literally, and scoff at those who do so. One of the most effective methods invented by sinful man to stifle the influence of the Bible is accomplished by the modern versions of the Scriptures. In the past, men tried to accommodate the Bible to their creeds, but now they blatantly put their creeds into the text itself, thus polluting the sacred word, and turn it into the word of man, instead of the word of God. Galatians 1:6-9 shows that no one, whether angel or man, has the right to pervert God's word, and to do so is to condemn their souls to torment. When the Word of God is perverted by adding to or subtracting from the sacred text, what results is not God's word. Despite the earnest efforts of powerful, well-financed, highly-placed, well-equipped, and powerful enemies, the Bible continues with us. No other book has undergone such vigorous opposition. Why is the Bible still here? It is here because of the protective power of Almighty God, and because no man is strong enough to withstand God. "*Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away*" (Matt. 24:35; cf. 1 Peter 1:22-25). "*He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day*" (John 12:48). God's providential power and his miraculous power in some special cases during Bible times, have preserved his word down through the long ages of its existence! Are you living a life of obedience to God's eternal Word?

- Bob Winton