

**Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:**

Jeff Sturgill continues to recover from a sore on his foot and is doing better.  
Ray and Liz's brother-in-law, Teddy Adams, in Kentucky is recovering from surgery to remove a tumor in the back of his neck  
Jesse Riddle is on hospice care but is often able to attend Sunday AM service.  
Virginia McKinney had outpatient surgery on April 11<sup>th</sup> for her cancer.  
Connie Davis was walking her dog when another dog attacked and caused her to fall. She had a broken hip and underwent surgery at St. Francis hospital Indianapolis to replace the left side of her hip. She will receive rehab treatments and a full recovery will take approximately 8 weeks.  
Shawn Mathews is on a new medication to help with his digestive system issues.  
Charlie Henard's niece, Brittany Henard, is battling cancer.  
Karen Sproles had a nerve block injection in her knee. A biopsy taken from a sore on her leg tested positive for melanoma. She has several other spots as well. She will be referred to a doctor specializing in skin cancer.  
Karen Sproles' daughter is had stomach surgery last week and is doing well.  
Nan Coons, wife of Darian and daughter-in-law of Eldon and Glenda Coons was is home and now able to eat and slowly improving.

**Pray For Our Shut-Ins:**

Gloria Hale, Karen Sproles, Iris Hash, John & Terry Richardson

**Pray For The Mission Works We Are Supporting:**

John Grubb (Mission work in Asia), Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru). See latest mission reports on the bulletin board in the back of the auditorium..

**Deepest Sympathy and Prayers:**

We are saddened at the passing of our dear sister Liz Sturgill who passed away Friday with her loving family at her side. She will be sorely missed but we rejoice in knowing that she is in paradise. Our prayers go out to Ray, Jeff, Jenny, Nathan, Taylor and the rest of the family. Funeral arrangements are pending.

**2024 Gospel Meetings:**

A fall gospel meeting will be held September 6-8 with brother Tom House of the Plainview Church of Christ in Fulton, MS.

**Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:**

Our next pitch-in dinner will be today, following the AM services.

**Fellowship Dinner:**

On Friday April 19th at 4:00 PM a group will be meeting at Brownie's restaurant in Bean Blossom for an early dinner. The restaurant has all you can eat fish as well as a complete menu of other options. If you have questions please see Floyd Coley.

**Radio Program:**

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

**God's Plan For Our Salvation**

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

April 14, 2024

***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 (March through October)

**Radio Program:**

"Preparing For Eternity"  
Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

**Website:**

[www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org](http://www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org)

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

# JESUS' FINAL EXAM

John Chowning

Final exams. Those two words can strike fear into the bravest heart of any student. They are either the light at the end of a semester-long tunnel of study, or the light of the last of many academic freight trains that have run you over and left you for dead.

Jesus faced tests daily. His earthly ministry began in the wilderness where he was tempted forty days (Matt. 4:1-11). Throughout his ministry, Satan relentlessly tempted Him in all points like we are (Heb. 4:15). On one occasion, Jesus had to rebuke Peter so severely that he said, “Get thee behind me, Satan” (Matt. 16:23)!

But, Jesus' final exam was like no other. He was tested far more than his head; it tested his heart. It was a rigorous examination of his love. It was constructed to see what he would (literally) die for. His final exam probed to the very depths of his soul and left no stone unturned.

Jesus' final exam tested his Love Of Truth. The “charge” that the Jews contrived to give Him to Pilate for a “trial” was that Jesus claimed to be “The King of the Jews.” When Pilate inquired about it, Jesus acknowledged that he was both a King and had a kingdom (John 18:36) — though not of this world and thus of absolutely no threat to Pilate. Jesus' kingdom is a kingdom of truth; for this kingdom he was born and came into the world so that he should bear witness to the truth (John 18:37).

How daunting was the gauntlet that Jesus traveled in this test of his love of truth. He endured ridicule, mocking, scourging, blasphemy, jeering, reviling, loneliness, and execution by crucifixion. Yet, he refused to compromise or lessen his tenacious love for truth. His example forcefully illustrates the inspired proverb: “Buy the truth and sell it not” (Prov. 23:23).

Jesus' final exam tested his Love For God. Unlike the many false definitions of love found today, Jesus' definition is quite simple: “If you love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15). To demonstrate his love for God, he had to obey his Father's will by keeping his commandments. “Thus it is written, and thus it behoved (was necessary for) the Christ to suffer” (Luke 24:46).

In the shadow of the cross, he fervently entreated his Father to take the cup of suffering away from Him (Mark 14:33-38). Yet, with each request, Jesus, though drenched in sweat as blood (Luke 22:44), always concluded with “nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt” (Mark 14:36). Each of his three requests was denied; therefore, Jesus accepted God's will on the matter, humbled himself, and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross (Phil. 2:8).

An accurate picture of his obedience and the spirit in which he obeyed must be noted: it was for the joy set before him that he endured the cross (Heb. 12:2). He did not suffer the atrocities of his crucifixion with a spirit of resentment or bitterness; he went with joy, the glorious by-product of willing obedience. Jesus' example illustrates what is meant when he commands his disciples to “be faithful unto death” (Rev. 2:10).

Jesus' final exam tested his love of his enemies. While on the cross, he prayed, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34). In his crucifixion he willingly bore our griefs, carried our sorrows, was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities, chastised for our peace, and atoned for our sins (Isa. 53:4-6) — all while we were his enemies (Rom. 5:6-10). Loving your enemies, blessing those who curse you, doing good to those who hate you, and praying for those who spitefully use you and persecute you (Matt. 5:44), was perfectly demonstrated at Calvary.

What a final exam! It literally was a killer! Jesus rose the third day because he aced his final exam.

Hallelujah, what a Savior!