

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

Jeff Sturgill continues to recover from a sore on his foot and is doing better.  
Mike Parnell's sister-in-law, Ethel Parnell, is in the early stages of dementia.  
Jesse Riddle is on hospice care but is often able to attend Sunday AM service.  
Connie Davis is recovering from surgery to replace the left side of her hip.  
Charlie Henard's niece, Brittany Henard, is battling cancer.  
Karen Sproles had a nerve block injection in her knee. She may need to have a nerve stimulator implanted at sometime.  
Karen Sproles' son has moved back to this area and will have knee surgery at a later time..

Linda Jones will have eye surgery to correct cataracts in both eyes and the iris in one of her eyes. Surgery will occur within the next four months when a special lens coming from Germany is available. Linda also will have surgery to remove a malignant growth and her prognosis for a full recovery is good.  
Jessica Haynes', daughter-in-law of Dave and Tina, grandmother is in the hospital in critical condition but showing some signs of improvement.

**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..

**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.

**Graduation Reception:**

A high school graduation reception for Isaiah Cristobal, great-grandson of Floyd and Judy Coley, will be held Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 3 PM at the New Life Church in Paragon.

**Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:**

Our next pitch-in dinner will be Sunday, June 2nd, following the AM services. Following the pitch-in we will have a service in song at 1:00 PM.

**Men's Business Meeting:**

The next men's business meeting will be Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM.

**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).

May 19, 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

# IGNORANCE IS NOT BLISS

Jason Patrick Hilburn

First John 2:16 lists three categories of sin: “the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.” These are ways Satan tempts men to sin against God (Gen. 3; Matt. 4), but the Bible also speaks of another category of sin — sins of ignorance. Many have sinned against God in ignorance without being motivated by selfish desires of the flesh, lust of the eyes, or the pride of life. Even so, ignorance does not excuse disobedience to God, so the saying, “Ignorance is bliss” is not a Biblical concept.

Under the Law of Moses God had specific requirements for people who had sinned in ignorance to be forgiven, clearly implying that ignorance did not automatically excuse their actions or lack thereof (Lev. 4, 5; Num. 15). In the New Testament Peter told the Jews that he knew they were in ignorance when they denied Jesus and desired a murderer to be set free instead, but he still commanded them to “Repent, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out” (Acts 3:13-19; cf. 2:38).

Saul of Tarsus was not motivated by selfish, sinful desires when he was persecuting the Lord’s church. After his conversion he said, “I did it ignorantly” and “in all good conscience” (1 Tim. 1:13; Acts 23:1), but ignorance was no excuse, and he still had to repent and be baptized to be forgiven (Acts 22:16). Paul later told the pagans in Athens that he knew they were worshiping in ignorance, but now God commands all men everywhere to repent, because judgment is coming, and ignorance will not be excused (Acts 17:30-31; cf. 14:16).

The Great Commission itself is proof that God wants all men to learn how to be saved through Christ, and that they will not be saved in ignorance (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16). If people could be saved in ignorance, why would Christians bother traveling all over the world teaching them to repent and obey God for salvation? God has plainly stated that those who do not know Him and do not obey the Gospel will be separated from Him forever in Hell (Matt. 25:31-46; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; 1 John 2:3-6). Man has a responsibility to seek God (Acts 17:27; Heb. 11:6), and those who do not believe in Him and serve Him are “without excuse” (Rom. 1:19-22; Psalm 19:1).

Sadly, there are many sincere religious people today who honestly believe they are faithfully serving God, but, like Paul before his conversion, they are mistaken and are still in their sins (Prov. 14:12; Rom. 10:1-3). In the Bible, even after people became Christians they were commanded to keep studying so as not to be led astray by false teaching in ignorance (1 Tim. 4:13-16; 2 Tim. 2:15-18; 2 Peter 3:15-18). Let us all study diligently to make sure we are not living in sins of ignorance, and once we find and obey the Truth, let us labor tirelessly to reach and teach those who do not know God or His requirements for salvation (1 Cor. 15:58; Gal. 6:9).