

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Gloria Hale is in the Heartstone rehab center, near Bloomington, Room 617.
Charlie Henard's mother suffers from Alzheimer's in Tennessee.
Karen Sproles is still suffering with problems in her knee. However, she is now has a doctor and foot doctor making visits to her home every 6 weeks.
Iris Hash is being treated for stomach, nasal and back problems.
Ken and Sherrie Roosa's son-in-law, Darrell Grimes is enrolled in a clinical trial treatment program for his cancer in Nashville, TN.
John Richardson is in the Bloomington Regional Rehab center after having back surgery.
Terry Richardson is in the Waters Nursing Home recovering from an accident.

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) (Scheduled to move to Peru June 3rd)

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) and to the local women's shelter. For the month of May, the item to be donated is coffee. If you would like to support this work, please bring this in throughout the month so they can be delivered at month's end.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, June 1st at 5:00 PM. All men are encouraged to attend.

Stop 11 Road Church of Christ Gospel Meeting:

The Stop 11 Road Church of Christ at 6920 E. Stop 11 Rd. in Indianapolis is having a gospel meeting June 5 – 9 with Brother Tom House doing the speaking. Meeting times are 10 and 11 AM and 5 PM on Sunday and 7 PM Monday – Thursday.

Summer Gospel Meeting:

Our summer gospel meeting will be held June 10-12. Our speaker will be former Morgan St. gospel preacher Randall Jones who currently preaches at the Richardsville, KY Church of Christ. Services will be held at 7 PM on Friday and Saturday evenings. Following the Sunday morning service there will be a pitch-in dinner followed by a 1 PM service to conclude the meeting. The theme for the meeting is "The Christian Race", based on Hebrews 12:1-3. Please pray for our meeting.

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).

May 29, 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

JOSEPHUS' TESTIMONY TO JESUS (AN OLDER MANUSCRIPT OF JOSEPHUS)

Jon Gary Williams

Here is the statement from the Jewish historian, Josephus, that has been used to show, from a secular standpoint, that Jesus was a historical figure.

Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonders, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew many after him both of the Jews and the Gentiles. He was the Christ. When Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men among us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him, for he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold these and then thousand other wonderful things about him, and the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day (Antiquities 18:63-64).

This passage by Josephus has been for centuries the most cited piece of non-Christian testimony to the earthy life of Jesus. Tacitus and Pliny mentioned Jesus briefly, as did Josephus in another shorter passage in his Antiquities. But this amazing paragraph appeared to be especially significant, coming from a supposedly unbiased source. Yet, critical scholars began to question whether such a passage would have been written by a non-Christian. It was suspected, and rightly so, that this statement attributed to Josephus was a reworking done by some later Christian copyist. In time this passage fell into general disfavor.

However, a clearly more authentic version of Josephus' testimony was discovered several years ago. Professor Shlomo Pines, a Jew and professor of philosophy at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, announced the discovery of a long-overlooked text of the Josephus passage in a 10th century Arabic copy.

This was closer to what Josephus originally wrote than the three 11th century Greek copies of Josephus often cited.

Here is the older Arabic passage:

At this time there was a wise man who was called Jesus, and his conduct was good, and he was known to be virtuous. And many people from among the Jews and the other nations became his disciples. Pilate condemned him to be crucified and to die. And those who had become his disciples did not abandon their loyalty to him. They reported that he had appeared to them three days after his crucifixion, and that he was alive. Accordingly they believed that he was the Messiah, concerning whom the Prophets have recounted wonders.

Now compare this with the passage from the 11th century Greek copies of Josephus, in which remarks were added to enhance the nature of Jesus.

Pines' 10th century version merely describes Jesus as "a wise man," whose "conduct was good," and who "was known to be virtuous." Also, it does not mention details of the Jewish leaders in Jesus' trial. As to the resurrection, Pines' version says this was only as a claim: "...his disciples ... reported that he had appeared to them three days after his crucifixion, and that he was alive. Accordingly, they believed that he was the Messiah, concerning whom the prophets have recounted wonders."

While intending to magnify Jesus through Josephus' work, whoever altered this text ended up making Josephus' testimony suspect to later generations. In his effort to enhance Jesus, he only weakened the credibility of the text.

It is important to notice that once restored to its more original reading, Josephus gives us a true historical reference to Jesus.