

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Gloria Hale has been moved from the rehab center to stay with her son Tim.
Charlie Henard's mother suffers from Alzheimer's in Tennessee.
Karen Sproles is still suffering with problems in her knee. However, she now has a doctor and foot doctor making visits to her home every 6 weeks.
Iris Hash was recently in the hospital but is now at home awaiting more tests to be done.
Ken and Sherrie Roosa's son-in-law, Darrell Grimes is back home however it appears that his cancer has spread to his liver. Please keep him, his family and Ken and Sherrie in your prayers.
John Richardson has been moved to the Kendrick hospital in Indianapolis for treatment of serious skin lesions and his continuing efforts to recover from back surgery..
Terry Richardson is in the Waters Nursing Home recovering from an accident.
Darrell Short, Ray Sturgill's brother-in-law, is recovering from gall bladder surgery.

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) and to the local women's shelter. For the month of May, the item to be donated is baby and children's clothes (sizes 0 to age 5). 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, July 6th at 5:00 PM. All men are encouraged to attend.

Summer Gospel Meeting:

Our summer gospel meeting with former Morgan St. gospel preacher Randall Jones was a great success. It was a pleasure to have Randall, Linda, Dallas and Lulu with us. We benefited tremendously from the outstanding messages that Randall delivered and enjoyed the Christian fellowship. We also appreciated the wonderful fellowship meal that was enjoyed by so many on Sunday. Thanks to all of our membership, area congregations, former members and local residents for your support of the meeting. May we all strive to run the Christian Race until the end.

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).

June 19, 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

TO CHANGE OR NOT TO CHANGE

Thinking you know God and actually being approved of God (by doing his will) are completely two different things. Changing God's word to suit the "times" is not acceptable with God. His word does not change.

Even in the first century there were those who claimed they knew God when they did not. Consider these passages: "This is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent" (John 17:3). "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (1 John 2:3-4). "He that sayeth he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked" (1 John 2:6). John 12:42 "...Among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God" (John 12:42-43).

The same is true today, many claim they believe in Jesus and the Bible, but upon close scrutiny, they really do not believe the Bible is from God, nor do they believe it has absolute authority. In other words, they do not respect the authority of the Scriptures. Many are concerned with pleasing the masses and being popular. Others claim to believe the Bible but try to soften or change its teaching by pointing out that culture has changed. They reason that an ancient book cannot be relevant in our time.

THINGS THAT WILL NOT CHANGE

The nature of God will not change. "I am the LORD, I change not" (Malachi 3:6; cf. James 1:17, Numbers 23:19, Psalm 102:27).

Jesus will not change. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines..." (Heb. 13:8-9; John 8:58).

Man's needs will not change. "O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps" (Jer. 10:23; Rom. 3:23). "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Prov. 3:5-6).

The Bible will not change. "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you" (1 Peter 1:24-25). "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matt. 24:35; 2 John 2).

Man's accountability to God and His Word will not change. "...We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Rom. 14:10-12). "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 will "render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6).

THINGS PEOPLE HAVE SOUGHT TO CHANGE

Many have sought to change the Bible. Modern versions/translations is certainly an example. Men change and write into the text of the holy Scriptures things they want to be true, but are not true. For example: The Revised Standard Version (RSV) changes "virgin" to "young woman" in Isaiah 7:14 which removes Jesus' deity and makes him no better than any other man. Matthew 1:23 is an inspired commentary on Isaiah 7:14 and declares "virgin" is the correct translation. Both Isaiah and Matthew were inspired. Such examples are multiplied throughout modern speech versions.

Many have sought to change the essential features of the church of Christ such as

its name (Rom. 16:16; 1 Cor. 1:2); its doctrine (1 Cor. 14:37; 2 Cor. 11:13-15); its organization (Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; Acts 20:28); its worship (singing Col. 3:16; praying Acts 2:42; Lord's supper Acts 20:7; preaching Acts 20:7; giving 1 Cor. 16:1-2); and its mission (Matt. 28:19-20).

Clearly, many have changed the one true plan of salvation by inventing the so-called "sinner's prayer" or "inviting Jesus into your heart to be your personal savior." The New Testament does not say anything about either of these things. Sinners are never told to pray anything. The Bible says men must believe (John 8:24), repent (Acts 2:38), confess (Acts 8:37), and be baptized in water (Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21) in order to be saved.

Even though God says, "my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways..." (Isa. 55:8), man ignores what God says and follows his own way. It is not uncommon to see churches advertise what they call a traditional service (more in line with the Bible) and a contemporary service (according to what people like). Seeking to draw the crowds, their philosophy is to make their worship a "have it your way" religion. Forget what God wants, we will do what we want. They fall for the devil's lie that the Bible is not what people need. He would have us believe we need to spice things up and give people what they like.

THINGS WE SHOULD CHANGE

A closed mind. "For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (Matt. 13:15).

Unbelief. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17). "Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God" (Heb 3:12). "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse" (Rom. 1:20).

A stubborn will. "And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life" (John 5:40). Jesus said, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not" (Matt. 23:37)!

MANY CLAIMS TODAY

Many claim to believe the Bible but do not believe Jesus built the church and that all saved people are in that one church (Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:47; Eph. 4:4; 5:23-25).

Many claim they respect the Bible but do not accept Bible teaching on the one true plan of salvation (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom 6:1-6, 17-18).

People claim they believe the Bible but have rejected what it says about the role of women in the church and the home (1 Cor. 11:3,7-11; Eph. 5:22-32; 1 Tim. 2:8-15).

A growing number of people claim they believe the Bible but because of modern culture have redefined marriage by saying it includes both heterosexual and homosexual unions (Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:2-9; 1 Cor. 7:1-5). Homosexual/Lesbian beliefs and practices are a perversion of God's creation of Adam (man) and Eve (woman). It is an abomination so great that God wiped the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah off the face of the earth because of it. Their sin was exceedingly grievous to God (Gen. 13:13; 18:20; 19:4-7, 23-29).

Conclusion: Some things must never be changed because of their divine and eternal nature. Some things should be changed in order to please God. We must not adjust the Bible to meet the demands of culture. We call upon all to adjust their lives to be in harmony with the Bible. We do not change the Bible; we allow it to change us. "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls" (James 1:21).

God's Word and only his Word is TRUTH (John 17:17). "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32). -- Randy Kea