

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Darryl Grimes, (Ken and Sherrie Roosa's son-in-law) suffers from cancer.

Gerald Dunn, brother of Susie Riddle, is recovering from COVID and is experiencing memory issues.

Ray and Liz Sturgill's son and daughter-in-law are both recovering from COVID.

One of the caretakers at Jimmy Lindsay's home has requested prayers for her mother.

Gloria Hale has been moved from the rehab center to stay with her son Tim.

Charlie Henard's mother in Tennessee suffers from Alzheimer's.

Virginia McKinney is back home from Tennessee but has been experiencing some balance problems. In April she fell, broke her wrist and had to have surgery to have a plate put in.

Karen Sproles is still confined at home and is receiving home health services.

Iris Hash is back at home and recently had a colonoscopy and gastric scope. She is also awaiting an appointment with a kidney specialist.

John Richardson is in a rehab facility in Greenfield.

Terry Richardson is in rehab at The Waters in Martinsville.

Steve Anderson is suffering from periods of dizziness.

Haven Duncan, Dave and Tina's granddaughter, recently graduated from Army basic training and has moved on to airborne training at Ft. Benning, Georgia.

The people of Ukraine.

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)

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, August 3rd at 5:00 PM. All men are encouraged to attend.

August Monthly Pitch-in:

Our next monthly pitch-in dinner will be following the morning services on Sunday, August 7th. Following the pitch-in we have a song service at 1:00 PM then dismiss for the day.

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).

July 31, 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

WHY THERE ARE NO GENUINE MIRACLES TODAY

Roger D. Campbell

In the New Testament, a “miracle” refers to a supernatural act of power that had observable and immediate results/effects. We should not expect God Himself to perform miracles or supply humans with miraculous powers today. Why not?

1) **It is not God’s will there be miracles today.** In God’s plan, signs, including all spiritual, miraculous gifts, were temporary. *“Whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away”* (1 Cor. 13:8). Notice three declarations about these signs (miracles): 1) they will fail, 2) they will cease, 3) they will vanish away. It is clear, the Lord never intended for spiritual gifts (miracles) to last indefinitely.

“Prophecies,” “tongues,” and “knowledge,” are three spiritual gifts which the apostle Paul mentions, both when he lists the miraculous gifts in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 and when he declares the temporary status of the gifts (1 Cor. 13:8). We must not think these three gifts (prophecies, tongues, knowledge, 13:8) are more important or somehow superior to other spiritual gifts. Instead, we should look at them as *representing/standing for all nine* of the gifts that are listed in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10. That is, what is true about these three gifts (prophecies, tongues, knowledge) is true, in fact, about all nine of the gifts.

Specifically, what Paul says about *the duration* of prophecies, tongues, and knowledge, is true also about *the duration* of all of the spiritual gifts which were supplied by the Holy Spirit in the first century. Here is the conclusion: just as those three gifts were a *temporary* aspect of God’s plan, so each of the other spiritual gifts was *temporary* also.

Looking further in 1 Corinthians 13:9-10, we see a contrast — a contrast between the *partial* (incomplete) and the *perfect* (complete). *“For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away”* (13:9-10). Taking into account the context, Paul is speaking about the temporary nature of the spiritual gifts (in revealing God’s word) and contrasts them to the permanent nature of God’s word (the completed New Testament). Note that the three gifts which Paul mentions in 13:8 (prophecies, tongues, miraculous knowledge) all are related to *receiving revelation* from God — revelation that was for the benefit of both the church and those who were still lost outside of the Christ. Those three spiritual gifts (prophecies, tongues, miraculous knowledge) represented

a temporary aspect of God’s revealing His will to mankind. In contrast to the “*in part*” (partial revelation of God, 13:9). The expression “*that which is perfect*” (13:10) has reference to the perfect/complete revelation (word) of God; not Jesus himself as a person.

2) **We do not need miracles today.** Why? Because we have “*that which is perfect*” — the completed word of God (the New Testament). The role of miraculous activity has been fulfilled. Tongues were for a sign (1 Cor. 14:22). Signs were used to confirm the word of God that Jesus’ disciples preached, as it is written, *“And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following”* (Mark 16:20). “Signs following” were the miracles performed that validated (proved) the words they were teaching. Miracles came after the preaching/words. Once that word was confirmed (in the first century), there was (and is) no need to confirm it again.

Jesus’ promise to His apostles was that, *“when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth...”* (John 16:13). That promise was fulfilled — “*all truth*” came from the Holy Spirit during the lifetime of the apostles (cf. 1 Peter 1:3). Since the Spirit revealed all truth in the first century during the days of the apostles, there is no new revelation from God being given today. Because there are no new revelations from the Lord that need to be confirmed, there are no new signs/miracles.

Spiritual gifts were for the edification of the church (1 Cor. 14:12,26,31). But today, the word of God is sufficient for the edification of the church, as it can build us up and give us an inheritance among the saved (Acts 20:32). Thus, the spiritual gifts/miracles are not needed today.

3) **God no longer is making available the power to do miracles.** Holy Spirit baptism was a first-century-only phenomenon, so it is not taking place today. Miracles are no longer needed. In addition, there are no true apostles alive who can lay hands on other Christians to pass along miraculous powers to them as is shown in Acts 8:14-20.

No genuine miracles are taking place today. God is still all-powerful, but the age of miracles has passed. They are not needed. We have the New Testament.