

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Bob Hawkins is awaiting the results of an MRI performed last week to try and determine the cause of his dizziness.

Ray Sturgill's brother-in-law, Darrel Short is in bad health.

Virginia McKinney is still dealing with back pain.

Karen Sproles' daughter, Jean England, is having pain due to stomach issues but the medicine she is taking seems to be helping.

Alice Wade's sisters Shirley and Linda in Florida are both suffering with cancer.

Mark Bunch, Lisa Bunch's husband, recently had a cardiac ablation procedure.

Pray For Our Shut-Ins:

Karen Sproles, Iris Hash, and Kathy Malowitz

Pray For The Mission Works We Are Supporting:

John Grubb and his wife, Eta (Mission work in Asia), Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru). See their reports on the bulletin board.

Benevolent Opportunity:

For the month of August, we will be donating canned pasta in support of the Gunner Burnham food pantry.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, September 2nd at 5:00.

Fall Gospel Meeting:

Please pray for our upcoming fall gospel meeting which will be September 11 – 13. Our speaker will be brother Ronnie Whittemore of the Stop 11 Road congregation in Indianapolis. Services will be at 7 PM on Friday and Saturday evenings and at the regularly scheduled times on Sunday. Please pray for a successful meeting.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be Sunday, September 13th, the last day of our gospel meeting, following the morning service. Following the pitch-in, at 1:00 PM, we will have worship including the final lesson from brother Ronnie Whittemore then dismiss for the day.

Fish Fry:

Our annual church fish fry will be Saturday, September 26 at 5:00 PM at the Martinsville City Park, Shelter House No. 1. Fish will be provided and all are encouraged to bring side dishes, desserts and drinks.

Ladies' Day:

The ladies of the congregation will be hosting a Ladies' Day on Saturday, October 17th beginning at 9:30 AM. Ladies from area congregations will be invited.

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).

August 23, 2026

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

THE BIBLE OR TRADITION, WHICH?

“At the council of Trent, Bishop Nachianti, ...maintained that Scripture was the only final authority, because in the Gospel everything was written which was necessary to salvation; but he was enormously outvoted, and it was decided that ‘unwritten traditions’ were to be accepted with the same veneration as the Holy Scriptures.” (F. W. Farrar, Quoting Ranke, I, p.203)

One view is that the Scriptures alone furnish people completely in that which is necessary to salvation and that we can resort to it as the final authority in religion. The other view is that the Scriptures of God are NOT sufficient as a guide and therefore must be supplemented by traditions. Now, the question before us is, WHICH VIEW IS THE TRUTH?

In searching for the answer to our question we find that God’s people under the law recognized the inspired books of the Old Testament as authority. Isaiah said, *“To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them”* (Isa. 8:20). Through the prophet, God made it clear that his written word was to be recognized as authority in religious matters. Christ himself recognized the authority of the Old Testament. When he was tempted of Satan, he appealed to the Scriptures. With each temptation Jesus said, *“It is written”* (Matt. 4) and then quoted from the Old Testament.

After the law of Moses was given to the children of Israel, the elders built up a collection of human traditions. They contended that this tradition was as binding upon the people as the written Word of God itself. But Christ and his disciples ignored tradition for *“he answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandments of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and*

cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition” (Mark 7:6-9). Thus we see that Christ forever repudiated and rejected *man-made tradition* as AUTHORITY in religion.

The word “tradition” is derived from a word which means “that which is carried over.” Tradition is that which is repeated or carried over from one generation to another. Peter said Christ died to redeem men from the *“vain manner of life handed down from your fathers”* (1 Peter 1:18). Knowing that Christ died to redeem men from the effect of human tradition, Paul said, *“If ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the word, why, as though living in the world, do ye subject yourselves to ordinances? Touch not, taste not; handle not; Which all are to perish with the using)”* (Col. 2:20-22). From the New Testament scriptures we learn that Christ credited the Old Testament books as the ONLY authority for God’s people under the law. He warned the Pharisees that they were worshipping God in vain when they followed tradition (Matt. 15:9).

The Bible is our SOLE AUTHORITY in religion, for the Scriptures claim that authority for themselves. In 1 Peter 4:11, we read, *“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God.”* Peter said the Scriptures are the oracles of God, and when men are speaking on behalf of Christianity, they must speak as the oracles are written. In 2 John 9 we read, *“Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.”* In this passage the Bible testified that if we go beyond the teaching of Christ as given by the apostles, we do not have God.

— Goebel Music (1934-2013)