

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

Ray Sturgill is recovering at home he will return to the hospital on November 7th to have a kidney stone disintegrated and again on November 11<sup>th</sup> to have a stint removed.  
Liz Sturgill remains in the Indianapolis St. Francis hospital with kidney issues. She is improving but currently is receiving dialysis treatments.  
Sheila Wilson, daughter of Floyd and Judy Coley, has been diagnosed with lung and lymph node cancer. She is in IU Health hospital in Bloomington.  
Jesse Riddle had successful eyelid surgery and recently had stitches removed. He will have the port in his arm adjusted on November 15<sup>th</sup> to allow him to begin dialysis.  
Tim Burdsall is suffering with bruising and swelling in one of his legs.  
Continue to pray for Mike Parnell's son, Bill in Arkansas as he battles cancer. He is currently in the IU hospital Indianapolis undergoing chemotherapy treatments.  
Shirley Cook has returned to Florida for the winter. Pray for her to have a safe, healthy and enjoyable time.  
Ray and Liz's son Jeff had back surgery and is now recovering at his home.  
Doris Parnell will had shoulder surgery on October 31<sup>st</sup> and is doing well.  
Bob Hawkins had a second outpatient procedure for a problem with veins in his legs. He will receive additional treatments in the future.  
Gerald Dunn, brother of Susie Riddle, is in a health care institution in Bedford and is experiencing memory issues.  
Virginia McKinney is still experiencing some balance problems and recently fell again. She is awaiting results of a biopsy of her thyroid.  
Karen Sproles is still confined at home and is receiving home health services. Her husband Chet broke his leg and is now back home again.  
Iris Hash is feeling better and is back home.  
John Richardson has been transferred to the Countryside Nursing Home in Avon, IN.  
Terry Richardson is in rehab at The Waters in Martinsville.  
Sam Burch, nephew of friends of Ray and Liz, was seriously injured in an automobile 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)

**Men's Business Meeting:**

The next men's monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, December 7th at 5:00 PM. All men are encouraged to attend.

**Fall Gospel Meeting:**

Our fall gospel meeting with Brother Ronnie Whittemore will be held November 11-13. Services will be held at 7:00 PM on Friday and Saturday evenings. There will be a pitch-in dinner after the Sunday morning service then a 1:00 PM service to conclude the 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).

November 6, 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 (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

## IS OUR WORSHIP RIGHT WHEN OUR HEARTS ARE WRONG?

*Jimmie B. Hill*

*Our worship is not wanted by God if it comes while we are holding a grudge and unwilling to go the second mile in order to make things right with our brother.*

Worship, in the church of our Lord, is one of the highest functions of which we are capable. It certainly must not be entered into lightly. Our worship to God must be done according to the truth of God's word and with a proper heart. Jesus said, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). Similarly Paul wrote, "every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give" (II Cor. 9:7). The word "purposeth" here is from the Greek *proaireo* and is used only in this verse in the Greek New Testament. Its meaning is "to bring forward, bring forth from one's stores; to bring forth for one's self, to choose for one's self before another, i.e., to prefer; to purpose." There are two primary thoughts given in this word, namely, that we are to reflect seriously on the amount we are giving and, that no one else can do this reflecting for us. The amount we give and the spirit in which we give it are to be determined by the following conditions in the verse, that is, "...not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." This principal can be aptly applied to all other facets of our work for and worship to our God.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus stated, "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift" (Matt. 5:23,24). The Law of Moses encouraged the Jews to bring voluntary gifts to the altar to be consecrated to the Lord. This act was to show how much the giver was devoted to the Lord. These gifts were expected to proceed from the pure heart. However, if one refused to make a matter right with a brother who had a complaint against him, such a gift would be considered no more than mere ritual. Ritualistic service to God can not be a substitute for humility and brotherly kindness. Therefore the command was given to postpone the altar service until he had made things right with his brother. What is the principle that our Lord gives here? The quality of the gift is determined by the quality of the giver. Or, the acceptability of any act of worship is determined by the acceptability of the worshiper. Our gestures of worship are meaningless unless our hearts are right with God and our brethren!

The principle of John 4:24 and Matthew 5:23,24 is also found in Isaiah 1:11. "To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the

*LORD: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats."* The Lord was asking Israel, "What do you think you will gain by your sacrifices?" All of the items in this verse were commanded under the Law of Moses and were not innovations that were brought in by Israel. They had, however, become unacceptable to God because Israel had become so corrupt and sinful. They were doing what the truth demanded, in a sense, but their heart was not right.

We have this lesson powerfully enforced by the prophet Micah. In the middle of a heated controversy with the Lord, Israel says, "*Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul*" (Micah 6:6,7)? Note that Israel asked the questions and then gave the appropriate answers. The things mentioned would have normally been acceptable but because of their corruption they knew they were not. Then we see the ignorance and arrogance of Israel as they go beyond what is expected by inquiring of the Lord concerning thousands of rams and ten thousand rivers of oil. This is such an extravagant offering that only a king could bring such. Surely the Lord would be impressed. And they do not stop there. They then inquire about the offering of their firstborn thinking that not even Jehovah would doubt the sincerity of such a sacrifice.

But the Lord responds through Micah, "*He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God*" (Micah 6:8). Not even the sacrifice of a firstborn child is an ample substitute for genuine honesty, kindness, and humility. Again, the acceptability of the gift is determined by the acceptability of the giver.

Our worship is not wanted by God if it comes while we are holding a grudge and unwilling to go the second mile in order to make things right with our brother. Sanctimony cannot cover up an unsanctified soul. Our God guards His altar against a profane spirit presuming to make up in worship what is lacking is humility and love. Our Lord has stressed the seriousness of right relationships. Our conscience may be clear. Any misunderstanding may be wholly on the part of the other. He may or may not have the cause for the unwholesome attitude. However, it is the duty of the worshiper to go and try to make reconciliation. The gift (our worship) should be left at the altar until we first be reconciled to our brother (Matt. 5:24).

Our worship is not right when our hearts are wrong.