

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

Liz Sturgill was admitted to the St. Francis hospital in Indianapolis with two blood clots in one lung and severe leg cramps. She is being treated with blood thinners and pain medication and is scheduled to go home sometime over the weekend.

Jesse Riddle is experiencing weakness is able to attend Sunday AM services.

Delores Hendrickson was unable to attend services last Sunday due to a fever and cough. She is however doing better now.

John Richardson is recovering from gall bladder surgery.

Joni McConnell has asked for prayers for a close friend who has Parkinson's disease and is now under hospice care.

Two of Ken Roosa's cousins, Gary and Butchy Thurman, have cancer.

Shirley Cook's nephew in Illinois, Dale Pflum, is suffering from cancer.

Karen Sproles is doing better will have a nerve block injection in her knee soon.

Sister Audrey Goshorn, wife of brother Daniel Goshorn, a missionary we are blessed to support in Peru, will be having a C-section soon for delivery of their son, Levi.

She will travel to the capital of Peru, Lima, for the C-section on December 2nd.

Please keep Audrey, Levi and the rest of the Goshorn family in your prayers.

Shannon Jones, daughter of Linda and Randall, who suffers from cancer, is back home, has resumed her cancer treatments but is very weak.

**Pray For Our Shut-ins:**

Gloria Hale, Karen Sproles, Iris Hash, John & Terry Richardson

**Pray For The Mission Works We Are Supporting:**

John Grubb (Mission work in Asia), Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru). See latest mission reports on the bulletin board in the back of the auditorium.

**Ladies' Holiday Luncheon:**

The annual ladies' holiday luncheon will be held on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 AM at the church building. Pizza will be provided. See Tina Knoy for details.

**Assistance For A Needy Family:**

Sister Christa Mathews, through her contacts at school, has identified a needy family in the community. The family consists of 4 children, boys ages 17, 12, and 11 and a 17 year old girl, all being raised by their grandparents. The congregation is supplying funds to purchase clothing and other items for the family. If individual members want to donate additional money for this effort, please see Christa.

**Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:**

Our next pitch-in dinner will be Sunday, January 7th, following the AM services.

**Men's Business Meeting:**

The next men's monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 6th at 5:00.

**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).

November 26, 2023

***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

# THE HORRORS OF HELL

Tony Ward

Some lament the fact that hell is not preached as often as the preachers of old times declared it. We've heard it said by some that Jesus spoke more on the subject of hell than he did on heaven. "Fire and brimstone" sermons moved some people to repentance and obedience to the Gospel. Others were scared away from Satan and his minions as if hell was too hard to imbibe (swallow). Back in the mid-twentieth century, the churches of Christ were known for their growth, yet today new converts are few and far between. Could it be we have lost confidence in the subject of hell to motivate lost souls to repent and be converted? Jude says it is appropriate to use fear in order to save some. "Others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh" ([Jude 23](#)).

John the Baptizer describes hell as the place where the fire is never quenched ([Luke 3:17](#)). Contrary to the Jehovah's Witness sect, accurate translations of the Bible proclaim hell does exist. It is as real as heaven. Just as heaven's blissfulness is difficult to state in human terms, so it is that the horror of hell is next to impossible to put into words. Please allow me to make a feeble attempt.

During three and a half decades of working in various positions at a coal-fired power plant, I was exposed to the results of a controlled fire that produced steam. That in turn rotated the turbines, which resulted in spinning the generators to produce electricity. Periodically, the boilers had to have maintenance that required entering inside vast air ducts where the aftermath of burned coal could be seen. One of my first trips into that sulfurous wasteland was never forgotten. Somewhere, off in the distance, was a sound of metal rubbing against metal making an eerie, reverberating moan, over and over, like someone in pain or torment and suffering. One of my coworkers said nonchalantly that's probably what hell sounds like. I suppose that environment held other likenesses of hell as well. For instance, by sight, all that was visible was different shades of gray and black—rust and corrosion of metal, completely void of color. Imagine a place with no color. One of the joys of life is the colorful Zinnias in my garden. The smell in that dungeon left an impressionable memory as well.

Coal ash leaves an acidic stench and sting in the nostrils. No kind of fragrance like roses could be found. Absolutely no moisture within that arid place, not the first drop. Remember the rich man's futile desire to have one drop of water touch his tongue ([Luke 16:24](#))? The likeness to a desert of dry grit made up that tormenting environment.

Occasionally, the horrible thought of being accidentally locked inside was alleviated by exiting through a small manhole. Yet, there will be no exiting the eternal place of torment for the lost ([Luke 16:26](#)). The sound of that closing door will be Jesus himself saying "depart from me" ([Matt. 7:23](#)).

In another compartment of the boiler known as the superheater, I could squeeze between the rows of tubing just far enough to peer over and down into the deep dark abyss of the bottom of the boiler several stories down. Falling over that precipice would mean certain death.

If all this is combined with constant pain, I suppose this scenario gets us closer to just how bad hell really is. And, if one seems to have comfort in loved ones being there alongside you, remember all human emotions of love and compassion are gone. Only disdain, contempt, regret, sadness, weeping, gnashing of teeth, and torment exists in the place called Gehenna ([Matt. 13:42](#)).

I shall never forget my twelve-year-old son crying to me and stating "Dad, I don't want to go to hell." Immediately, my thought was where did he get that fear of hell. It had to be hearing or reading about it—perhaps, the parochial school he had attended since the beginning of his elementary school years. Somewhere, somehow he was impressed by the knowledge of the torment in eternal hell. Because of his desire to please both of his parents, he would attend the Catholic Church with his mother one Sunday and accompany me to the church of Christ the next, alternating each week until he obeyed the Gospel in the Spring of 1985. Despite twelve years of indoctrination in that apostate church, fearfulness of this real and eternal place called hell helped to cause my young son to face eternity with hope.

Fearing the flames of hell works to the saving of souls. Let's shout it from the housetops.