

## God is in Control

By Travis Main

How often over the last year were the following words spoken in America? "God is in control." These magic words have been used over a wide range of issues that many have faced. Truly, God is creator of all (Genesis 1). His words to Job in the final chapters of the book of Job makes it clear the knowledge and wisdom of God is far beyond the scope of man. However, what is the purpose of uttering the phrase "God is in control.?" "God is in control" – Is this a password to do nothing?

For some, the acknowledgement of the power of God over all is recognition that He provides, cares, loves, and will ultimately deliver justice to mankind. God gave Adam and Eve a garden home with a promise. That promise was rooted in justice. If they ate of the forbidden fruit, their lives would be forfeit. God was true to His Word. God also provided deliverance for Israel under the bonds of Egypt. His promise was a blessed land of abundance for the children of Jacob. That promise too was rooted in justice. If they forsook the commandments of God, curses would come upon them and the land of Israel would vomit them out. Indeed God was faithful to His promise. The Lord of heaven and earth has as a foundation for all that He does: truth, love, justice, and righteousness.

Unfortunately, it seems there are those of the Lord's Body, America, and the world who envision God as a micro manager who takes it upon Himself to control every aspect of man's life. This is false. God has always allowed man freedom to choose his path under the knowledge of the Lord's faithfulness to justice. Herein lies a great failure of mankind. Expressing: "God is in control." currently seems be a ticket for mankind to fail to engage in doing what is his personal duty. It didn't work or Adam and Eve or Israel. God will judge inaction and disobedience. When evil is occurring and man steps aside, he will be called to account by the Heavenly Father. America was a land founded on the principles that God was to be trusted – that He reigns supreme. However, happiness was not to handed out on a silver platter. It needed to be pursued. When the voices of Americans stand silent in the face of abortion, sexual sin, corruption, the censoring of truth, improper application or failure to enforce the law, election fraud, governmental injustice, deceit, treason, and so much more... God will not be appeased by the statement "God is in control." as one stands by and silently watches evil occur.

If it is not obvious yet, the point is this: Every individual has the God given responsibility to do that which Jehovah has commanded. Man has a responsibility to step forward to care for the physical and spiritual injustices/needs experienced by others. Consider:

- James 4:17 – *"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."*
- Psalms 82:3 – *"Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy."*
- Ezekiel 33:6 – *"But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand."*
- Galatians 6:10 – *"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."*
- 1 John 3:17 – *"But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?"*
- Luke 10:30-37

God is in control. He has delegated mankind to follow His commandments of justice, love, honor, and righteousness. God will not do what is required of His creation. However, He will hold mankind accountable for not acting upon the opportunity to do right. "God is in control." is not an excuse to do nothing. This attitude of expectation of reward for failure to act has never been promised by God. He is a God of justice. May we, His creation, take this knowledge upon ourselves and engage in what is just for America and the world.

## Things you should know about!

Communion is available as you come in the building, please take only what is needed for today. Hold on to the emblems until the proper time.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

## Happy Birthday!!!

Heather Kirchner 1/2      Jennifer Kirchner 1/2  
Lucian Martin 1/9      Rhonda Gaynor 1/15

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

## Happy Anniversary!

Owen & Linda Whittington      12/30

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

January 9th will be our next potluck lunch

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Sunday's at 2:00pm John will be conducting a worship service at the Oakley Place Retirement Center at 1275 Northview Dr. in Greenville.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

January's men's meeting will be on 1/15/22.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Bible class teachers for next quarter, see Dianna for your materials.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Please call John or email him at [jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com](mailto:jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com) with any prayer requests or announcements you may have for the congregation.

### Serving today and next Sunday:

Sunday AM Rotation	December 26, 2021	January 2, 2022
Announcements	John McGiffin	Ed Kirchner
Song Leading	Ed Kirchner	Owen Whittington
Opening Prayer	Jason Bang	Jerry Thompson
Lord's Supper Comments	Jerry Thompson	Tim Bang
Scripture Reading	Isaiah Rohr	Chris McGiffin
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin
Closing Prayer		Duane Kemp

**Bible Verse of the Week**

“Only fear the LORD, and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you.” 1 Samuel 12:24



Lord’s Supper Reflection – Help Me Believe in the Power of the Cross

*“Witnesses Of These Things”*

Then He said to them, “These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.” And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things.” Luke 24:44-48

Offering Meditation

*Your Gift to God helps Support Fellow Christians*

“Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: On the first *day* of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.” 1 Corinthians 16:1-2

**Remember in Prayer:**

- \*Our Country & leaders
- \*Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- \*Phyllis Caldwell - encouragement
- \*Larry Bey - dealing with Parkinson’s
- \*Rhonda Gaynor - recovering from an ear/sinus infection and Bell’s Palsy
- \*Sally Westover (Carrie Thompson’s mom) - is dealing with health issues
- \*David Martin (Sam’s brother ) - at Basic training
- \*Heather McDaniel (member at Mid County) - has terminal cancer
- \*Sandy (staff member at The Oakley Place) - her mom fell and broke her hip
- \*Mary (a resident at The Oakley Place) - asking for prayer for family members dealing with health issues

- \*Henry Morgan (Rena Morgan’s son) - has COVID, in the hospital on a ventilator
- \*Amy Hick (Tammy Seiber’s neighbor) has cancer
- \*Nicole (Tammy Seiber’s niece) - having some complications with her pregnancy
- \*Curtis Enos is recovering from hip surgery
- \*Ray Miller (Sam Martin’s grandfather) - has dementia
- \*Jeff Miller (Sam Martin’s uncle) - has lymphoma cancer
- \*Family and friends of Dan Long (Tom & Patsy Muter’s son) grieving his passing

**How can we be praying for YOU?**



**Attendance and Contribution Record**

Sunday, December 19		Wednesday, December 22	
Bible Classes	31	Attendance	34
AM Attendance	33	Contribution	\$1,559
PM Attendance	30		

# Welcome to the Greenville Church of Christ



## December 26, 2021

Worship Times:

Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am

Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

Minister, John McGiffin

4599 Children’s Home Bradford Rd

Greenville, OH 45331

[www.greenvillecoc.org](http://www.greenvillecoc.org)

We are happy that you have chosen to worship with us today. If you are visiting, you are our honored guests and we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor’s card and let us get to know you.