



## Morganton First Church of God

PO Box 1404, Morganton, NC 28680  
675 Summers Road, Morganton, NC 28655  
(828) 433-6709 Fax: (828) 433-0736

### *Sunday*

Sunday School~ 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship Service & Kid's Church ~ 10:30 a.m.  
Youth Power House ~ 6:00 p.m.

### *Wednesday*

Fellowship Supper ~ 5:45 p.m. & Adult Classes ~ 7:00 p.m.  
KidsPlace & Nursery ~ 7:00 p.m.  
Youth PowerHouse ~ 7:00 p.m.

Website: [www.mfcog.com](http://www.mfcog.com)  
Email: [mfchog@charterinternet.com](mailto:mfchog@charterinternet.com)

**Our Purpose is to expand God's Kingdom, as we reach, teach,  
disciple and activate people for our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Pastor Don Blankenship  
Interim Pastor

Kevin Wyatt  
Youth Pastor

Beth Walker  
Music Director

Kathy Turner  
C.E. & Children's Director

Pam Bennett  
Administrative Assistant



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### From The Pastor

#### THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHRIST

What is our understanding of the authority of Jesus? In general? In our lives? As we looked at the story of the centurion who understood the authority of Jesus better than anyone in Israel (Matthew 8:4-13), the scripture states that "when Jesus heard this (the centurion's response) He was amazed and said to those who followed him, 'I tell you the truth, I have not found such faith in anyone in Israel.'" Would He be

amazed at our understanding and application of His authority?

"All authority in heaven and on earth..." (Mt 28:18) is how Jesus expressed it. He has all authority which means that there is no authority lacking: nature, water, sea, wind, life and death, Himself, his church, spirit beings, and, yes, even Satan himself. He is the final authority on all things.

Now, where does that take us? In the Old Testament, we read of many accounts of God's people following after the desires of their own hearts, "doing what was right in their own eyes," chasing after the pleasures and rewards of this world, permitting ungodly influences in their lives. In other words, they were not acknowledging the authority of God (Christ?) in their lives. And dramatic and drastic consequences resulted: a great flood, destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, blindness and weakness of Samson, adultery and murder (David), etc. Today, we experience the consequences of not living under the authority of Christ. Broken relationships, divided families, split churches, psychosomatic illnesses, anger, hostility and hurt: all are rampant. God's people (the Church) are called to live under the authority of the Christ. It no longer is "what I want," but what does God want? It is not true that everyone has his own opinion and is entitled to it. What is true is that all those who are under the authority of Christ are subject to His will.

So, in order for us to live under His authority, we must subordinate (submit) our wills, our opinions, our desires to His will. And the way to know His will is to have fellowship with Him, to enter into dynamic, life-changing relationship with Him, so that we can know the will of the Father. Jesus knew the will of the Father because He submitted to and had fellowship with Him.

Would He be amazed at your understanding of His authority? Today, I charge you: examine yourself under the authority of Christ. Lay bare any areas that are not submitted. Walk in the power of His authority, rather than limping under any other authority. Christ declared His authority. He permits us to choose. God bless you.