

Comfort/encouragement from Second Corinthians ...

“Amen” to the Glory of God

Jesus is the Creator; Jesus is the Savior. Righteous and true are His acts and judgments, and He is faithful to keep and carry out His word. “God is faithful,” affirms Paul, and the result is that those who imitate Christ are faithful in their words as well. “Let your statement be, ‘Yes, yes,’ or ‘No, no,’ ” was the teaching of Jesus Himself in the Sermon on the Mount, “and anything beyond these is of evil” (Matthew 5:37). Not only is the saint not to punctuate his words with epithets, but he is to make his “yes” be a “yes,” and his “no” be a “no.” God’s “no” is indeed a “no,” but His emphasis is that He wants to say, “Yes!” The Jesus that was preached among the Corinthians by Paul and others is the One by whom all the faithful things of

God come to the believers.

- ◆ **The promises** — The All Wise and caring God has many things for the Christian. Among others, He offers full release from sins, the indwelling Holy Spirit, a resurrection body, and eternal life and fellowship with Him. These, of course, come through Christ. “For as many as may be the promises of God,” asserts Paul, “in Him they are ‘yes’ ” (2 Corinthians 1:20). Because God in His love and mercy has offered these promises to the disciple of Christ, “we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him” (Ephesians 3:12). God is not trying to be stingy with what He awards His children; but He does want them to reach for them in ever increasing faith — faith as designed by the Bible.
- ◆ **Our “Amen!”** — *Amen* is a carry-over from Hebrew tradition into Christianity, and it has to do with truth and agreement. When Paul, for example, speaks of prayer in the congregation at Corinth (and of the necessity of those prayers being in a language understood by the congregants), he phrases it as a question: “If you bless in the spirit only [giving an inspired prayer in a foreign language], how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the ‘Amen’ at your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you are saying?” (1 Corinthians 14:16). The “Amen” at the end of the prayer by others means that they affirm the content of the prayer; but it is obvious that if the prayer is not understood, others cannot offer their “Amen” to it. The apostle Paul uses this Biblical custom to comment on the saints affirmation of God’s willingness to fulfill His promises to the brethren through Christ. “Wherefore,” he concludes, “also by Him is our ‘Amen’ to the glory of God through us” (2 Corinthians 1:20).
- ◆ **The glory of God** — The expression *the glory of God* shows up in places where the reader might not expect it. One example is when the apostle speaks of immersion into Christ: “Therefore we have been buried with Him through immersion into death,” he comments, adding, “in order that as Christ was raised from the dead *through the glory of the Father*, so we too might walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4). The saint’s new life began with the glory-of-the-Father’s raising Jesus from the dead, hence the *glory of God* was involved in raising the former sinner to new life in Christ. It is thus fitting that the apostle would say, “by Him is our ‘Amen’ to the glory of God!”

The promises of God are indeed “Yes” in Christ Jesus. God is the One who is for all the positives — the “Yes’s” — of earthly life as well as eternity. The apostle Paul, as a living exponent and example of those “Yes’s”, is not going to be one whose “Yes” could be a “No” at the same time. Hence, when he planned to come to Corinth, that was his positive intention, and his enemies would have no ground for criticism because he had to delay his coming “to spare” the congregation his rod. He wants their repentance and his return to them to be an “Amen to the glory of God” through Christ.

JAY WILSON

**The promises of
God are indeed
“Yes” in Christ
Jesus!**

She will be led to the King in embroidered work; the virgins, her companions who follow her, will be brought to You



Saints visiting after assembly
Christ’s Church
Bozeman, MT

“For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He is doing; and greater works than these will He show Him, that you may marvel.”

John 5:20

December 24, 2017!

Christ's Church
Meeting at
30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman
Comfort Inn — Butte

MORNING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 8:45 a.m.

Opening — Jay Wilson

M.C. — Bob Edgar

Prayer Meditation — Nick Jacobs

Communion Meditation — Jim Mitchell

Preaching — Jay Wilson

EVENING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 7:00 p.m., **Butte - 7:30 p.m.**

M.C. — Phil Sutton, **George Stone**

Communion Meditation — Davis Ashley, **Boaz McDunn**

Preaching — Young men, **Jay Wilson**



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bring the New Year in! — Fellowship dinner, fun and games, etc., following Dec. 31 evening assembly

Men's annual New Year prayer and fasting time — Monday, Jan. 1 at 8:30 am at the church building

Chili and Corn Bread cookoff — Combined with monthly fellowship and potluck, Lord's Day Jan. 28 right after assembly

Bible Bowl — Sat., March 10, 2018

Ladies' Advance — April 19-21, Hampton Inn, Great Falls, MT

Men's PEAKS — Thurs. - Sat. July 19-21, 2018 at Delmoe Reservoir

Family Camp 2018 — Aug. 31 - Sept. 3, 2018 at Bozeman church property

Catch us live or archived:

livestream.com/ccib

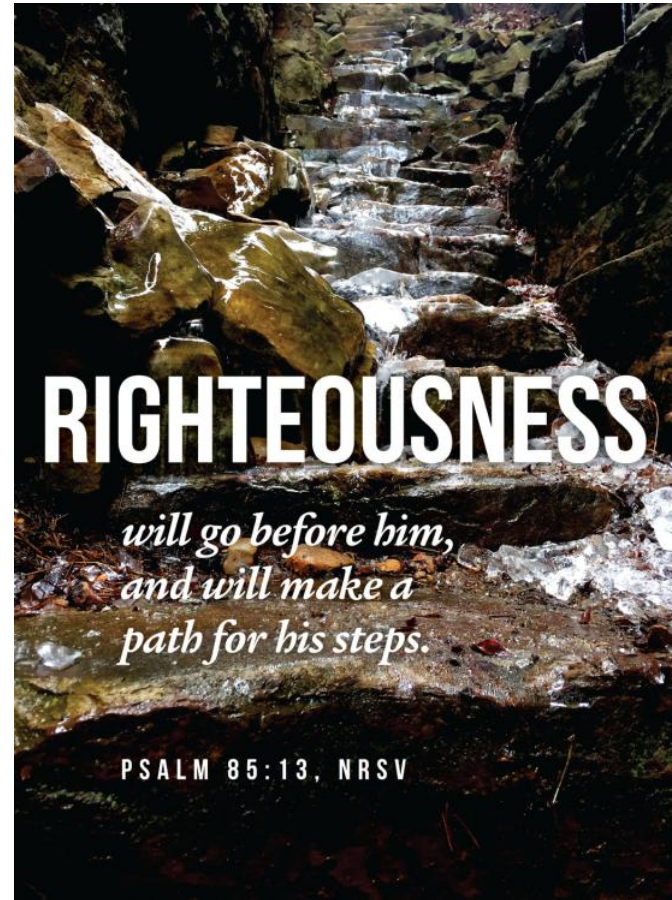
christchurchonline.com

Also check out the youtube videos on targetingtruth.com

and audios at innermanradio.org

This Wednesday, Dec. 27th —

7:00 p.m. — Some enlightenment from Ephesians — Phil Sutton



Question of the week:

Two names are given in Revelation 11 for the "mystical" city wherein Jesus was crucified. What are those two names?

Last week's question: God, after speaking through the prophet Micah about God's requiring man to do justice and walk humbly before Him, comments on scales and weights. What does He say? *Answer: "Can I justify wicked scales and a bag of deceptive weights?" (Micah 6:11).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School — 85
Morning Assembly — 95
Evening Assembly — 51

Wednesday Night (12/13) — 41
Butte Lord's Day — 18
Great Falls Lord's Day — 44,72