

Comfort/encouragement from Second Corinthians ...

## What God Does

God does much more for the Christian than simply forgive his sins. It is true, of course, "that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15), and that this salvation is of inestimable value. But "the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the Beginning of the creation of God," (Revelation 3:14), has additional wonderful blessings for the faithful follower of Christ. Immersion in Jesus' name, for example, is not only "for the forgiveness of sins" but also that each immersee might receive the indwelling Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). The apostle Paul, in writing to the brethren in Corinth, wants to remind the saints of some of the tremendous things God has done for them so that they might focus on the blessings of being in Christ rather than being selfish and fleshly minded.

- ▼ **Established** – If the Christian is going to attempt to stand on his own in the midst of the tremendous spiritual battles that are raging, he is going to fall because he does not have enough strength by human effort alone to stand. Hence it is that God promises to set the foundation for each Christian and to provide girding for that foundation. "After you have suffered for a little while," Peter informed the brethren at large, "the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen, and establish you" (1 Peter 5:10). That "establish" is placing the saint, along with the apostles, on the firm foundation of God. "Now He who establishes us with you in Christ," also affirms Paul to the brethren in Corinth, "and anointed us is God" (2 Corinthians 1:21).
- ▼ **Anointed** – Not only is the saint established in Christ, but he is described as "anointed" as the apostle Paul mentions here in his epistle to the Corinthians. "As for you," the apostle John informed the called of Christ, "the anointing which you received from Him abides in you" (1 John 2:27). That which abides is the indwelling Spirit. As Jesus was anointed with the Spirit in His immersion, so the person being immersed into Christ is also anointed with the Spirit, but not in the realm that can be seen. Hence it is that each Christian is an anointed king and priest. "You are a royal priesthood," was how Peter described it (1 Peter 2:9).
- ▼ **Sealed** — God "also sealed us," affirms Paul (2 Corinthians 1:22). The apostle gave more information on this in his epistle to the Ephesians. "You were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise," was his explanation. Once again, the indwelling Spirit is involved in the sealing process. Essentially, the saint has been stamped or sealed with an invisible inscription that marks him as belonging to Christ. "The firm foundation of God stands," asserted Paul, "having this seal: 'The Lord knows those who are His,' and 'Let everyone who names the name of the Lord abstain from wickedness'" (2 Timothy 2:19).
- ▼ **Received pledge** — God sealed us, averred Paul, "and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge." Once again, the reference in Ephesians gives more relevant information. "The Holy Spirit," the apostle informs, "is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory" (Ephesians 1:14). The indwelling Spirit, in other words, is given as the pledge — the "earnest money" as in a real estate offer — guaranteeing that God will carry out His promise to give saints the proper resurrection body [God's own possession].

"As many as may be the promises of God," the apostle had pointed out to the brethren in Corinth, "in Him they are 'Yes!' " The modern saint should take some time to contemplate these tremendous promises God has given to each of His children of faith, processing the weight and the eternal value of what have been listed here. The saints are: 1) established, 2) anointed, 3) sealed, and 4) given the Spirit as a pledge. There is no reason for playing silly games or thinking small!

JAY WILSON

## THEY WILL BE LED FORTH WITH GLADNESS AND REJOICING; THEY WILL ENTER THE KING'S PALACE



Caleb Wilson, Kaden Reijgers, Ben Boyer, Lydia Sutton  
Elisa Wilson, and Joseph Shanahan  
collating bulletins with a great attitude  
Bozeman Christian School

**“For just as the Father raises the  
dead and gives them life, even so  
the Son also gives life to whom He  
wishes.”**

*John 5:21*

**December 31, 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

Stewardship exhortation — Gary DiPaolo

Communion Meditation — Charlie Jacobs

Preaching — Jay Wilson

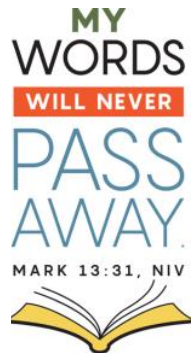
**EVENING SCHEDULE:**

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

M.C. — Davis Ashley, **George Stone**

Communion Meditation — Dan Tuck, **Jay Wilson**

Preaching — Four "Wise" Men - New Year charges, **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

**Monthly fasting and prayer for evangelism** — Sat. and Lord's Day Jan. 13,14

**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](http://livestream.com/ccib)

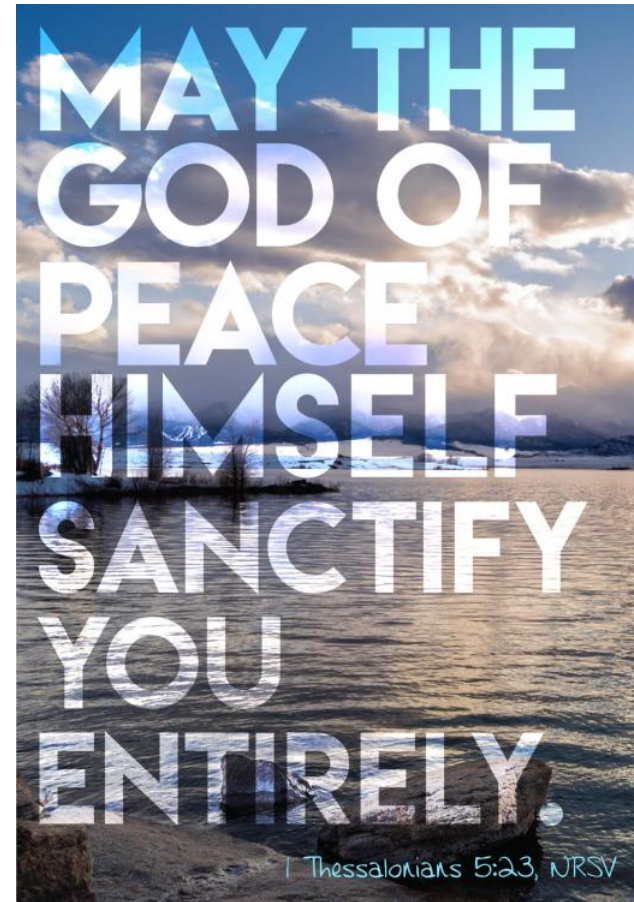
[christchurchonline.com](http://christchurchonline.com)

Also check out the youtube videos on [targetingtruth.com](http://targetingtruth.com)

and audios at [innermanradio.org](http://innermanradio.org)

**This Wednesday, Jan. 3rd —**

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



Question of the week:

In Zechariah 8, God asks the remnant a question about saving His people from the lands of the east and the west. What is His question?

Last week's question: Two names are given in Revelation 11 for the "mystical city" wherein Jesus was crucified. What are those two names? *Answer: Sodom and Egypt (Revelation 11:8).*

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:**

Bible School — 99

Morning Assembly — 118

Evening Assembly — 74

Wednesday Night (12/27) — 57

**Butte Lord's Day — 15**

Great Falls Lord's Day — 40,59