

**THE SHIELDS OF THE EARTH
BELONG TO GOD; HE IS HIGHLY
EXALTED**



Members of Christ's Church in Great Falls
watching the kids shoot off pop bottle rockets
in celebration of Jesus' ascension
May 10, 2018, at Great Falls, MT

“Jesus therefore lifting up His eyes
and seeing that a great multitude was
coming to Him, said to Philip, ‘Where
are we to buy bread that these may
eat?’ ”

John 6:5

June 10, 2018!

Christ's Church

Meeting at
30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman
Comfort Inn — Butte

MORNING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 8:45 a.m.

Opening — Jay Wilson, Josiah Sutton

M.C. — Bob Edgar

Prayer meditation — Scott Schweitzer

Communion Meditation — Jim Mitchell

Preaching — Jay Wilson

EVENING SCHEDULE:

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

M.C. — Davis Ashley, **George Stone**

Communion Meditation — Tommy Widner, **Boaz McDunn**

Preaching — Shawn O'Connell, **Jay Wilson**



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Monthly fasting and prayer for evangelism — Sat. and Lord's Day June 9,10

CO Family Camp — June 22,23 at Boyd Lake near Loveland, CO

Lima, OH rally — June 29-July 1

Men's PEAKS — Thurs. - Sat. July 19-21, 2018 at Delmoe Reservoir. Theme: "The Son of Man ..."

Bellevue, MI revival — Aug. 10-12

Family Camp 2018 — Aug. 31 - Sept. 3, 2018 at Bozeman church property. Theme: "Conversion in Immersion"

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, June 13th —
7:00 p.m. — Steve Doty



Question of the week:

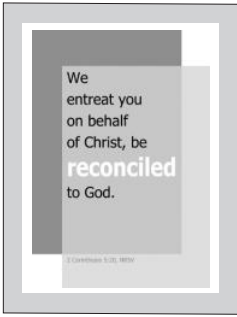
Peter's preaching in Acts 2:39 and Acts 3:26 contain important information of which Peter himself was unaware. What was that information?

Last week's question: David's son Absalom was pretty much a spoiled brat, but his worse trait was that he engaged in thievery. What did he steal? *Answer: He stole away the hearts of the people (2 Samuel 15:6).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: (RECORD 128 KIDS AT MONTANA YOUTH CAMP!!)

Bible School – 90
Morning Assembly – 115
Evening Assembly – 455

Wednesday Night (6/6) – 39
Butte Lord's Day – --
Great Falls Lord's Day – 23,38



Power to Overcome

God allowed many of the first century Christians to suffer greatly. The apostles, for example, underwent great persecution for the faith, and—by the grace of God and the future of the church—never caved in or recanted their testimony. When modern saints are in the process of establishing the truthfulness of the New Testament writings, one of the key pieces in the evidence is this: the apostles had every earthly reason to back away from their asseveration that Jesus had indeed risen from the dead but not a single one of them did! If the story of the Christ were fiction, held together by twelve or thirteen conspirators, it is almost totally unlikely that all of them would have stood firm for such a lie in the face of tremendous opposition. The record of the apostle Paul is

especially interesting in this regard. At first a persecutor of Christians, he turned to the Lord and became one of the gospel's most dedicated proponents. He, in his own words, lost everything of earthly value in becoming a disciple of Christ and in preaching that Jesus was raised from the dead. "If we have hoped in Christ in this life only," was his comment on this subject, "we are of all men most to be pitied" (1 Corinthians 15:19). It would be absolutely stupid to suffer so much and die a martyr's death for something he knew to be a lie. Thus God, in His big plan and overarching panoramic view, allowed the apostles and other early Christians to suffer greatly to establish the truthfulness of the New Testament writings for the benefit of those weighing the testimony in the twenty-first century.

- **Challenges** — Paul was explaining that the power of the indwelling Spirit was working in "earthen vessels," to establish that their power to overcome was from God. "We are afflicted in every way," he records, "but not crushed" (2 Corinthians 4:8). This was no exaggeration; even a small listing of what Paul went through is enough to stagger the thoughtful reader. But the powerful outcome was that in spite of such persecution, "we are not crushed." Most would be. "Perplexed," he adds, "but not despairing." There were many situations in which the apostle could have asked, "Why is this happening now, and why is it happening in this way?" But he had learned to trust in God, and to know that God was working all things for good; hence he was not despairing the outcome. "Persecuted," is another point he brings to the fore, "but not forsaken" (2 Corinthians 4:9). It would be important to remember that, under the new covenant, when things seem to be going wrong in the physical realm, that is no indication that God has abandoned the individual as it often was under the old covenant. "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you," are reassuring words from the scriptures (Hebrews 13:5). "Struck down," the apostle superadds, "but not destroyed." Run out of town, whipped, beaten, stoned, left for dead ... but not destroyed! He lived to preach another day.
- **Dying to live** — The apostle had earlier mentioned in this epistle that "the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance" (2 Corinthians 1:5). As he discussed the afflictions, the perplexities, the persecutions, the times he was struck down, the apostle tied those things to sharing in those sufferings of Christ. He thus described his situation as "always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body" (2 Corinthians 4:10). He had to die in order to "really live."

The modern Christian also needs to die to self and live totally for Christ.

Jesus repeatedly taught that "whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's shall save it" (Mark 8:35). The modern Christian needs carefully to process the concept that he must die to self and live totally for Christ. Living totally for Christ includes the suffering involved in carrying out in the body the dying of Jesus. Then, and only then, can the exemplary life of Jesus be manifested in the life of the saint.