# BEAUTIFUL IN ELEVATION—THE JOY OF THE WHOLE EARTH—IS MOUNT ZION IN THE FAR NORTH, THE CITY OF THE GREAT KING



Kirk Hinebauch, of Glendive/Wibaux, MT preaching at the 47th annual men's PEAKS Delmoe Reservoir east of Butte, MT

"When therefore the disciples had rowed about three or four miles, they beheld Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat; and they were frightened."

John 6:19

## **September 2, 2018!**



#### MORNING SCHEDULE:

9:00 am — Bible school classes

10:15 am — Assembly

Stewardship exhortation — Stan Zech, Great Falls, MT

Prayer meditation — Matt Mozingo, Missoula, MT

Communion meditation — Matt Towers, Archbold, OH

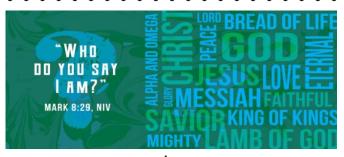
Preaching — Jay Wilson, Bozeman, MT

2:00 pm — Family Camp Olympics

#### **EVENING SCHEDULE:**

7:00 pm

Communion meditation — Matthew Wilson, Billings, MT Preaching — Steve Doty, Bellevue, MI



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### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

School starts! - Bozeman and Butte schools begin Wed. Sept. 5 at 7:30 am/8:30 am!

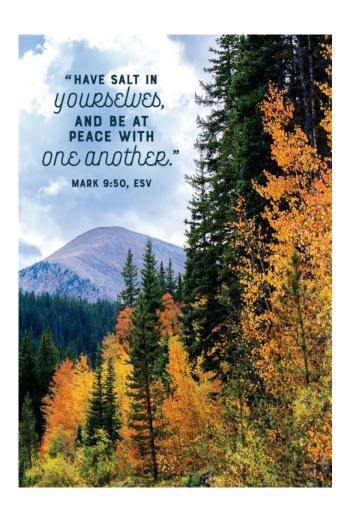
Spiritual Warriors' Weekend — Fri., Sat., Nov. 2,3 at Bozeman church building

Bible Bowl — Sat. Mar. 16, 2019, at Bozeman on Romans chapters 1-8

Men's PEAKS — Thurs. through Sat. July 25-27, 2019

Family Camp 2019 — Aug. 30 - Sept. 2 at Bozeman church property

This Wednesday, September 5th -7:00 p.m. — Teachings from Titus — Phil Sutton



Question of the week:

What were Paul and the other apostles carrying, according to Paul in his second epistle to the Corinthian brethren, that the life of Jesus might be manifested in their body?

Last week's question: In one of the psalms of David, the servant of the Lord, he speaks of how the saints are to trust in God, and He will do what He promises to do. What does the saint have to commit to? *Answer: Commit his way to the Lord (Psalm 37:5).* 

#### ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School — 90 Morning Assembly — 110 Evening Assembly — 70 Wednesday Night (8/29) — 101 Butte Lord's Day — 14 Great Falls Lord's Day — 44,76



Comfort/encouragement from Second Corinthians ...

### **Ambassadors for Christ**

The uneducated man, in the realm of true spiritual things, does not know that he needs to be reconciled to God. Hence the Almighty and All-loving goes through much effort and much communication to show the individual his dreadful state if he appears before God on judgment day in an unredeemed condition. Working through the nation Israel, which He brought into existence and preserved by miraculous means, He defines sin. As the revelation, safely and divinely preserved in the sacred scrolls, continued to increase, it became clear that some sort of sacrifice was necessary to rescue man from the pit of sin. "Without the shedding of blood," the writer of Hebrews summed up, "there is no forgiveness" (Hebrews 9:22). All the elements of the sacrificial system pointed to the even-

tual death of Jesus on the cross, the Lamb of God offering Himself for the sins of mankind. "He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree," was Peter's clarifying contribution (1 Peter 2:24). Finally, Jesus in His ascension becomes the great High Priest of the order of Melchizedek, and sprinkles spiritual blood in the spiritual tabernacle, that full redemption might be available for any who would obey the gospel. What an effort expended by the loving heavenly Father!!

- The ministry of reconciliation If someone has an apartment for rent, but no one knows of its availability, how will it be rented out? If God's redemption of mankind has been accomplished, but no notice has been sent out, what benefit will be derived? Thus God has set in motion what He calls "the ministry of reconciliation." The message of God's willingness to welcome formerly wayward men back into His fellowship originated with Jesus in heaven, but it was initially preached on earth by the apostles of Christ. As the apostle Paul noted, "He has committed to us the word of reconciliation." By the commission of Jesus Christ, given as recorded in Matthew 28:19,20, the ministry of reconciliation is extended to all future disciples of Christ, the terms being first given by the apostles of Jesus Christ.
- ▼ Ambassadors for Christ Because the reconciliation is going to be accomplished on the basis of a scripturally defined faith possessed by the wayward petitioner, the message is going to be delivered by one human being to another. If Jesus were to deliver the
  - message personally, that would destroy key elements of the necessary faith. If the word of reconciliation were delivered by angels, that would too overpowering for the delicate balance required for honest faith and redemption. By God's intelligent plan, the message begins to communicated to the race of men by specially tested and chosen men, the apostles of the Lord. "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ," Paul informs us, "as though God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God" (2 Corinthians 5:20). It is highly significant that the great God earnestly

"WE BEG YOU,
ON BEHALF OF
CHRIST: BE RECONCILED TO GOD!"

- desires restored fellowship with His separated and lost children—kids that He had to "boot out of the house" because they would not keep house rules. He is so earnest that He is described as being in a position of "begging"! That is commitment and humility on His part.
- ▼ The trade off The righteous God, who cannot have fellowship with or countenance sin, is willing to proffer a tremendous trade off in His efforts to make it possible for any willing person to participate in His plan for reconciliation. "He made Him who knew no sin," Paul comments, concerning what Christ went through on behalf of the lost, "to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Corinthians 5:21). The magnitude of this exchange is really unfathomable: He was willing to take our sins on Himself, and replace those with His righteousness!

The love of God for each lost sheep is certainly displayed in His desire for reconciliation, and the lengths through which He has gone to make that reconciliation possible. No wonder, then, the value He puts on fellowshiping with His children in the Lord's Supper. No wonder, also, for the description of His wrath to be executed on those who reject His magnificent offer of reconciliation. "We beg you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God!"