

They have called lands after their own names; but man in his pomp will not endure, like the beasts he will perish



Young guys and gals from different congregations
enjoying fellowship in some indoor games
Spiritual Warriors' weekend
Christ's Church in Bozeman, MT

“ And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day.”

John 6:39

December 23, 2018!

Christ's Church

Meeting at

30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman

Comfort Inn — Butte

MORNING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 8:45 a.m.

Opening — Jay Wilson, Luke Jacobs

M.C. — Bob Edgar

Prayer Meditation — Zac Dschaak

Communion Meditation — Scott Schweitzer

Preaching — Jay Wilson

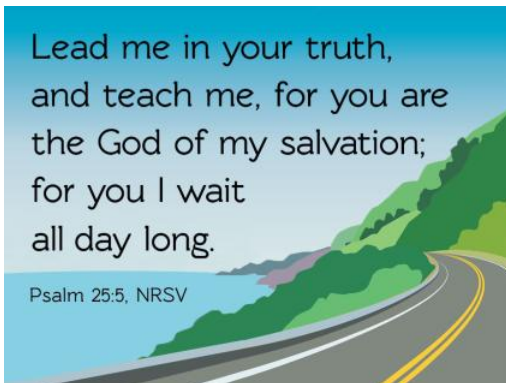
EVENING SCHEDULE:

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

M.C. — Phil Sutton, **George Stone**

Communion Meditation — Matt Wilson, **Cole Hunsicker**

Preaching — Davis Ashley, **Jay Wilson**



**This Wednesday,
December 26th –
7:00 p.m. —
Teachings from Phile-
mon
– Phil Sutton**

Fasting for Evangelism is Dec. 29,30,
followed by Potluck on Lord's
Day, Dec. 30, after Assembly

Catch us live or archived:
livestream.com/ccib
christchurchonline.com
Also check out the youtube videos on
targetingtruth.com
and audios at innermanradio.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

New Year's Eve costume party — December 31, 6:00 pm
at the church building. Bring snacks/food to share,
games, and costume

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



And the Word
became flesh and
dwelt among us ...

John 1:14, ESV

Question of the week:

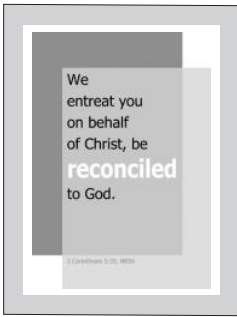
When David describes in the Psalms how he was fearfully and wonderfully made, he also spoke of his days and a book. What was the connection?

Last week's question: Where Obadiah speaks of the nations' drinking of the wrath of God and becoming as if they never existed, the prophet speaks of those on a certain mountain who will escape. What was that mountain? *Answer: Mt. Zion (Obadiah 1:16,17).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 84
Morning Assembly – 104
Evening Assembly – 68

Wednesday Night (12/19) – 86
Butte Lord's Day – 20
Great Falls Lord's Day – 45,71



Special Offering

The brethren in Jerusalem and Judea had suffered greatly. They had given of themselves as Jewish Christians to reach the Gentiles with the gospel, as Paul indicated in writing about this to the church in Rome: "For if the Gentiles have shared in their [the Jewish Christians'] spiritual things," he pointed out, "they [the Gentile Christians] are indebted to minister to them also in material things" (Romans 15:27). Furthermore, as is recorded in Acts: "And one of them [the New Testament prophets] stood up and began to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly be a famine all over the world. And this took place in the reign of Claudius" (Acts 11:28). The brethren in Judea, then, were in need of financial assistance. At the close of a major meeting in Jerusalem to determine

whether the Gentile Christians had to be circumcised and keep the Law of Moses, James and Peter and John made a request of Paul: "They only asked us to remember the poor—the very thing I also was eager to do" (Galatians 2:10). The result was that the apostle Paul made a major organized effort to put together a large offering from the Gentile churches on behalf of their brethren in Jerusalem and Judea, including the congregation at Corinth.

- ◆ **Remarks about Macedonia** — The major congregations in the Roman province of Macedonia were Philippi, Thessalonica, and Berea. Paul, in his travels through that region, had informed them of the need in Jerusalem, and here—somewhat as a challenge to Corinth—reports about the Macedonians' response. "Now, brethren," the apostle introduces this next topic, "we wish to make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia, that in a great ordeal of affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality" (2 Corinthians 8:1,2). The apostle attributes the blessings first of all, and rightly so, to the grace of God—God's overarching nature as the supplier of all things. The Macedonian brethren's ability to give anything at all was an awesome demonstration of God's grace, considering the tremendous persecutions they were undergoing, as well as the deep poverty into which they were mired. However, they were joyful in the midst of their poverty; in fact, Paul describes them as having an "abundance of joy." These qualities, which have nothing to do with money, amazingly resulted in an *overflowing* wealth of liberality of a great contribution for the Jewish saints.
- ◆ **Beyond their ability** — The character of the brethren in Thessalonica, Berea, and Philippi certainly could be, and should be, exhibited as an example to all Christians of every century. "For I testify," averred the apostle, "that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, they gave of their own accord" (2 Corinthians 8:3). These are Holy-Spirit-inspired statements! If they gave of their own accord (and they really desired to do so!) and they gave beyond their ability, then God supplied extra for them.
- ◆ **Favor of participation** — It is implicit in the writing of the apostle that he was not expecting the Macedonian brethren to share in helping out the poor saints in Judea. He records, however, that they were "begging us with much entreaty for the favor of participation in the support of the saints" (2 Corinthians 8:4). Instead of being begged for an offering, the Macedonian brethren "begged" to be able to contribute! They regarded it as a favor if they would be allowed to participate! Modern saints could certainly use this as an example of what it means to be a dedicated Christian.

The reason that the Macedonian brethren were so eager to participate in making a contribution to support the poor saints in Jerusalem is evidenced in the conclusion of Paul's thought: "And this," adds the apostle, regarding their participation rather than their non-participation, was "not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God" (2 Corinthians 8:5). That is of course the key for any Christian at any time: first give yourself to the Lord, and then whatever sacrifices are necessary are willingly given.

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the Christian:
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to the Lord.*