

**Hear, O My people, and I will speak;
O Israel, I will testify against you; I am
God, your God**



Mequel Baril of Billings, Zac Dschaak of Bozeman,
and Lorenzo Serrano of Billings
enjoying some great fellowship
2019 Bible Bowl
Christ's Church, Bozeman, MT

**“But Jesus, conscious that His disciples
grumbled at this, said to them, ‘Does this
cause you to stumble? What then if you
should behold the Son of Man ascending
where He was before?’ ”**

John 6:61,62

April 21, 2019!

Christ's Church

Meeting at

30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman

Comfort Inn — Butte

MORNING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 8:45 a.m.

Opening — Jay Wilson, Kaden Reijgers

M.C. — Bob Edgar

Stewardship Exhortation — Charlie Jacobs

Communion Meditation — Bob Edgar

Preaching — Jay Wilson

EVENING SCHEDULE:

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

M.C. — Phil Sutton, **George Stone**

Communion Meditation — Gary DiPaolo, **Tom McDunn**

Preaching — Jerry Hoffman, **Jay Wilson**



This Wednesday,
April 24th –
7:00 p.m. —
*Character Traits of
Jesus*
– *Phil Sutton*

April 27,28 - Fasting and
prayer for evangelism

Lancaster, OH Family Camp — Memorial Day weekend,
Lancaster, OH

Badlands Family Camp — Memorial Day weekend,
near Glendive, MT

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

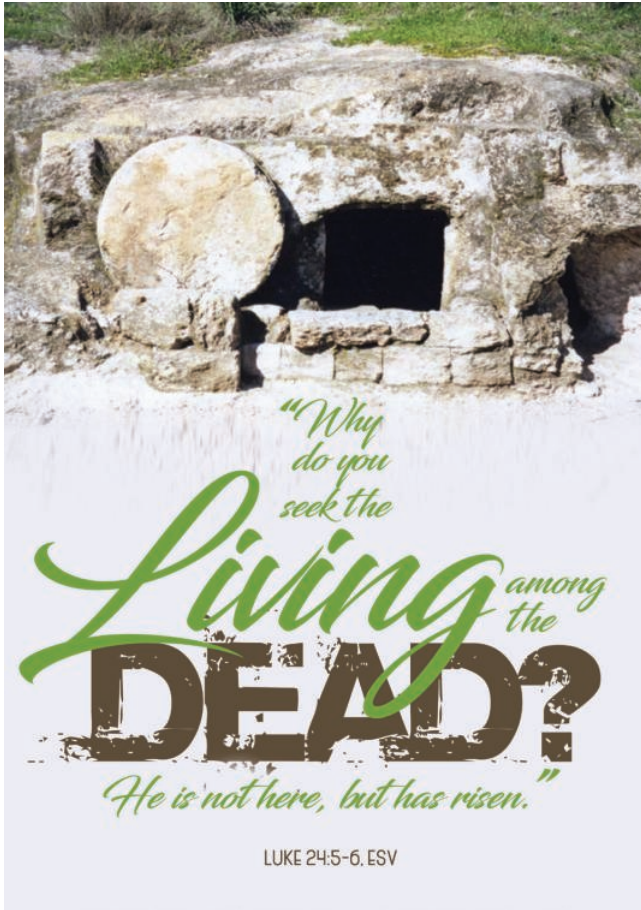
Ladies' Advance — April 25-27

Bozeman Awards and Graduation Ceremony — Thurs. May
23, 7:00 pm at church building

Montana Youth Camp — June 9-14

Men's PEAKS — Thurs. through Sat. July 25-27, 2019. Theme:
High Points from Hebrews

Family Camp 2019 — Aug. 30 - Sept. 2 at Bozeman property.
Theme: Timeless Truths from the Torah



Question of the week:

After Jesus had conversed with the rich young ruler, He talked about the things which written in the prophets concerning the Son of Man. What were those things?

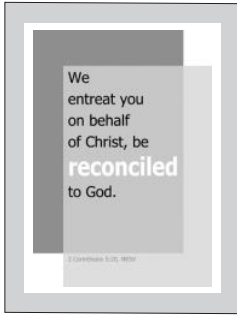
Last week's question: Prior to Moses' ascending to Mt. Nebo to die, he pointed out a major choice for the people of Israel connected with prosperity and adversity. What was this choice? *Answer: Life and prosperity, or death and adversity (Deuteronomy 30:15, 16).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 99
Morning Assembly – 116
Evening Assembly – 75

Wednesday Night (4/17) – 72
Butte Lord's Day – 19
Great Falls Lord's Day – 44.71

Comfort/encouragement from Second Corinthians ...



Actions Speak Louder than Words

Some people are very skilled at manipulating others. Very often, they are capable of getting their target audiences to focus on the wrong details, to turn an event into something other than what it really was, or to misdirect their hearers with catchy phrases rather than remarks with substance. Such were the members of the opposition in the church at Corinth. "His letters are weighty and strong," they said, "but his personal presence is unimpressive and his speech contemptible." Of what eternal significance is the "personal presence" of an individual? Even of Jesus it had been prophesied, "He has no stately form or majesty that we should look upon Him, nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him" (Isaiah 53:2). The character of Christ is what counts! What if Paul's head was somewhat

misshapen following his stoning at Lystra? What if some of the "brandmarks" he bore on his body due to his suffering sundry persecutions were visible? Did those things, if they were there, discredit the truth and power of his teaching? Or his speech's being "contemptible?" Who decides what is contemptible speech (or "hate speech") anyway? Bogus and misdirecting charges!! But such tactics have been used in the past ages, and will continue to be used against all who proclaim God's truth.

- u **Standards of comparison** — Any person who gets to pick the standard by which he is measured can pick one by which he looks really good. The enemies of Paul had been able to shift things around so that they themselves were portrayed as examples of excellence. "For we are not so bold to class or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves," he somewhat sarcastically comments, "but when they measure themselves by themselves, and compare themselves with themselves, they are without understanding" (2 Corinthians 10:12).

The congregation in general would often get lost in the subtleties of the comments and statements, so the apostle is bringing the issue out clearly for the building up of the congregation. His opponents "measure themselves by themselves, and compare themselves with themselves." That would help the average member to pick out what was really going on, and to see how it was that those who were set on destroying the congregation had worked to make themselves look so good.

- u **Beyond the talk** — In their more rational moments people know that they have to look beyond the talk and check the substance and action of the talkers. But some of the talkers are so smooth and engaging that they get people to listen to the words and forget to check the substance. Many an individual has been "conned" into buying things by smooth-talking salesman, or into following a charismatic but disingenuous leader. So Paul begins to "cut to the chase," and bring his "track record" into the discussion so as to expose those other guys as mere talkers with a hidden agenda. "But we will not boast beyond our measure," is his delimiting proposition, "but within the measure of the sphere which apportioned to us as a measure, to reach even as far as you" (2 Corinthians 10:13). Paul's sphere of influence, including the beginning of many congregations, by the grace of God, extended from Antioch of Syria in the east all the way across what is now modern Turkey to Greece and even to portions of the Balkan peninsula. Which of his opposition could even begin to match that performance and have that experience?

While laying out his credentials as a worker in the vineyard of Christ, the apostle is also going to note that Corinth itself was within his "sphere" of influence. "For we are not overextending ourselves, as if we did not reach you," is his poignant statement, "for we were the first to come even as far as you in the gospel of Christ" (2 Corinthians 10:14). What could his opponents point to in that regard? They are being shoved into their proper place by statements such as this: "For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends" (2 Corinthians 10:18). Amen!

JAY WILSON

The apostle notes that Corinth itself was within his "sphere" of influence.