Against You, You only, I have sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight



Bob Woodburn talked Katie Wilson into this Bob's 1912 Kissel Parking Lot Christ's Church in Bozeman, MT

"Did not Moses give you the Law, and yet none of you carries out the Law? Why do you seek to kill Me?" John 7:19

September 8, 2019!



livestream.com/ccib christschurchonline.com Also check out the youtube videos on targetingtruth.com Spiritual Warriors' Weekend — Fri., Sat., Nov. 1,2 Bible Bowl — Sat. Mar. 14 Ladies' Advance — April 9-11, Billings, MT Men's PEAKS — July 23-25 Family Camp 2020 — Sept. 4-7



Question of the week:

In his second epistle to the Corinthians, Paul said that our weapons of warfare are not according to the flesh. What are those weapons for?

Last week's question: Job was a prophet, according to the book of James, and spoke of his coming Redeemer. What did he say, in connection with his wish that these things would be written in a book? Answer: "My Redeemer lives, and at the last He will take His stand on the earth" (Job 19:23-25).

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: (FAMILY CAMP - EST. 535)

Bible School – --Morning Assembly – 179 Evening Assembly – -- Wednesday Night (9/4) – --Butte Lord's Day – 14 GF Lord's Day (*Wed*) – FC-63 GF-11,*34*



Comfort/Encouragement from Second Corinthians ...

Run this Test!

Most people don't like tests. Some people get nervous, and some even use the expression, "I don't test well." But tests are necessary; without testing it cannot be known whether a product will perform as expected, or whether it will fail the purchaser after it has gone on the market. Modern "apps" (applications for cell phones, computers, etc.—terminology which would not have been even comprehensible 30 years ago at the time of this writing) often run "beta" versions as *tests* in the market before full release so that "bugs" in the programming can be exposed. Even the faith of saints needs tested: "Consider it all joy, my brethren," was James' exordium, "when you encounter various trials, knowing

that the *testing* of your faith produces endurance" (James 1:2,3). Tests are not only necessary, but, with the proper adjustment of perspective, a source of joy!

Test yourselves — Paul's ultimate concern for the brethren in Corinth is their eternities. He has repeatedly stated that his efforts are for their souls. His exposure of the false apostles and deceitful doctrines was for their souls. His chronicling of his suffering was for their souls. His projected coming for the third time would be for their souls. It is fitting, then, that he should challenge them in a positive and caring fashion about the condition of their souls. "Test yourselves," he exhorts, "to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves" (2 Corinthians 13:5). There is such a thing as *the faith*. It is sometimes termed as *the faith of Christ* or *the apostles' doctrine*. It is comprised of the entire body of teaching how they are to function within the body of Christ. A person enters into Christ and the faith of Christ at his immersion

into Christ. But he has to maintain that faith and grow in that faith or he will suffer shipwreck of faith. The apostle is making an earnest appeal, because of all the false doctrines and schismatic pressures in Corinth, for each of them to run the scriptural test to see if each is still in the faith of the new covenant.

Positive results — There are some ways that a Christian could perform this examination upon himself: Am I faithful in the assemblies of the

saints, and participating honestly in the Lord's Supper? Am I praying to the Father, and faithfully reading and processing His word? Am I honestly attempting to walk in the footsteps of Christ, conscious that I am strengthened by His Spirit? Am I seeking for opportunity to engage the lost in serious study of the Bible? Am I making efforts to encourage the saints? Am I paying attention to the doctrines being preached and taught in the congregation, and am I comparing them to the whole message of the word of God? Am I deepening my family relationships based on the scripture? Am I exhibiting the love and patience that God would have me to exhibit? These are good starter questions. "Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you fail the test?" And this is what always is and always will be the ultimate test: Is Jesus Christ truly in me, as defined by the objective standard of the word of God?

Only those who are in the faith of Christ at the end of their lives will pass through the gates of glory; all who fail the test will howl in hell. This indeed is the test worth passing. "But I trust that you will realize," Paul says to the brethren concerning himself and the other apostles, "that we ourselves do not fail the test" (2 Corinthians 13:6). The apostles were chosen by Jesus Himself, and were tested and trusted men. Hence Paul could say with absolute confidence that he and the others were continually facing the faith challenges in front of them *victoriously*, and their honest desire was that the saints in Corinth and in all the churches in all generations would likewise *victoriously* overcome.

Jesus Christ is in you, unless you fail the test!

JAY WILSON