

**By Your favor do good to Zion;
build the walls of Jerusalem**



Thursday night Bible study
hosted by John and Stacy Schmiedeke in their home
Christ's Church
Great Falls, MT

**“Now on the last day, the great day of
the feast [of Tabernacles], Jesus stood
and cried out, saying, ‘If any man is
thirsty, let him come to Me and drink.’ ”**

John 7:37

December 22, 2019!

Christ's Church

Meeting at

30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman

Comfort Inn — Butte

MORNING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 8:45 a.m.

Opening — Jay Wilson, Gunnar Landsgaard

M.C. — Bob Edgar

Prayer Meditation — Shawn O'Connell

Communion Meditation — Jay Shoup

Preaching — Jay Wilson

EVENING SCHEDULE:

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

M.C. — Davis Ashley, **George Stone**

Communion Meditation — Brent Dschaak, **Cole Hunsicker**

Preaching — Phil Sutton, **Jay Wilson**



This Wednesday,
Dec. 25th –
7:00 p.m. –
*Character Traits of
Jesus*
– Phil Sutton

December 21,22 - Fasting
and prayer for evangelism. Potluck after
assembly Dec. 22
New Year's Eve Party - Dec.
31 at church building

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bible Bowl — Sat. Mar. 14

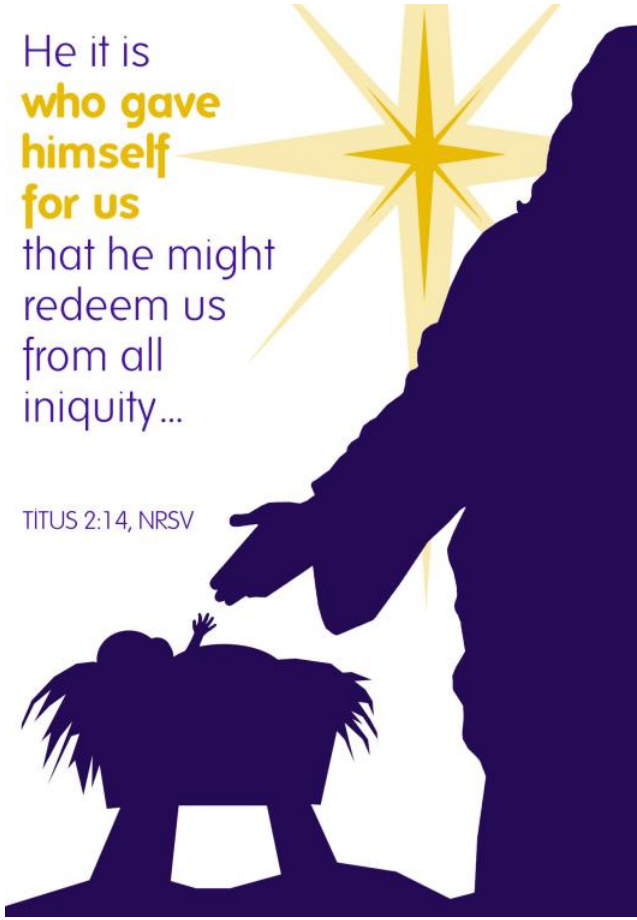
Ladies' Advance — April 9-11, Billings, MT

Men's PEAKS — July 23-25

Family Camp 2020 — Sept. 4-7

He it is
**who gave
himself
for us**
that he might
redeem us
from all
iniquity...

TITUS 2:14, NRSV



Question of the week:

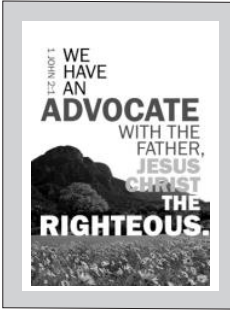
Jude, in his epistle, speaks of two cities which engaged in great immorality, and which God used as an example of punishment in eternal fire. What were those two cities?

Last week's question: Amoziah, the priest at Bethel where the golden calf was first set up, told Amos to quit prophesying. What two things was Amos predicting that bothered Amoziah? *Answer: (1) "Jereboam [the king] will die by the sword," and (2) "Israel will certainly go from its land into exile" (Amos 7:12).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 104
Morning Assembly – 122
Evening Assembly – 66

Wednesday Night (12/18) – 83
Butte Lord's Day – 22
GF Lord's Day (Wed) – 48,75,39



Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...

Imitating Jesus

Talk is cheap. Great swelling words never carried their purveyor over an inch of ground, nor did mere expressions of intent ever accomplish a task. Good intentions and great words must be translated into proper actions, and the definition of “proper actions” must be provided by the word of God. If someone were to say that he loved other people, but was teaching a false plan of salvation, then those are empty words. If someone were to say that he loved the poor, but was stealing money from other people’s wallets to distribute, then those are empty words. The one who “does not keep His commandments is a liar.” Such is the divine analysis.

- ◆ **Perfecting the love of God** — The humble servant of Christ is one who believes the apostles’ doctrine, who prays for the church and for the lost, who assiduously puts the kingdom of God first, and who carries the word of God to the next person. In this process, sin and self is set aside, the old man is crucified, and the new self continually steps forward to execute what is written in the word of God. “Whoever keeps His word,” says John, “in him the love of God has truly been perfected.” Only love for God, love for the brethren, and love for the lost provide sufficient motivation to keep the commandments of God.
- ◆ **Walk as He walked** — “The one who says, ‘I have come to know Him,’” intones John, “and does not keep His commandments is a liar.” The Holy Spirit, ultimate author of this epistle, wants true saints to know exactly what their standing is with the Father. “By this we know that we are in Him: the one who says he abides in Him ought to walk in the same manner as He walked” (I John 2:5,6). This is certainly getting past mere “talk.” Walking as Jesus walked, teaching as Jesus taught, suffering as Jesus suffered, dying for the gospel as Jesus died ... this is the test. “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,” averred the Lord Himself, “but whoever loses it for My sake and the gospel’s will save it” (Mark 8:35).

**“The one who says
he abides in Him
ought to walk in the
same manner as He
walked.”**

The antichrists (ancient and modern) maintain that the body, as part of the material realm, is bad. Hence the individual, regardless of good intentions, is trapped in a situation where he may want to do good but can’t because of the sin which indwells his body. Thus those late first century antichrists, the Gnostics, were continually walking in darkness while claiming to walk in the light. They also therefore were not keeping the commandments of God and were in fact a bunch of liars!

The apostle John, in this epistle, is totally destroying the doctrinal positions of the antichrists, and exposing their behavior to anyone who will process his words. Contrary to the position of the ancient antichrists, that Jesus did not possess a physical body and therefore was in a condition where He did not have to sin, the apostle states plainly in his opening salvo: “What we have seen with our eyes,” he declares, “what we have beheld and our hands handled ...” Clearly Jesus sojourned in a physical body, and yet did not sin. The Gnostics were a collection of rotten sinners and walked in darkness.

The apostle John, in this epistle, also totally destroys the doctrinal positions of modern antichrists, who maintain that Jesus did not sin because His body was different from that of Christians. He did not inherit sin, would be one way of stating that position, or that He was not totally depraved like the human race would be another. Whatever the argument, John destroys it with these words: “the one who says he abides in Him ought to walk in the same manner as He walked.” If that is not possible, then God is a cruel and ridiculous Master. But He is not: He provides the working of the word within and the strengthening of the inner man by the indwelling Spirit. So, get walking!!

JAY WILSON