

**YOU WILL DELIGHT IN RIGHTEOUS
SACRIFICES**



Nikki Schultz and Cherie Ceveraux
having some great fellowship
Wed. night assembly
48th St. Church of Christ, Billings, MT

**“He who believes in Me, as the
Scripture said, ‘From his
innermost being will flow rivers of
living water.’ ”**

John 7:38

December 29, 2019!

Christ's Church

Meeting at
30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman
Comfort Inn — Butte

MORNING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 8:45 a.m.

Opening — Jay Wilson, Ben Boyer

M.C. — Bob Edgar

Stewardship Exhortation — Cliff Renner

Communion Meditation — Steven Doty

Preaching — Jay Wilson

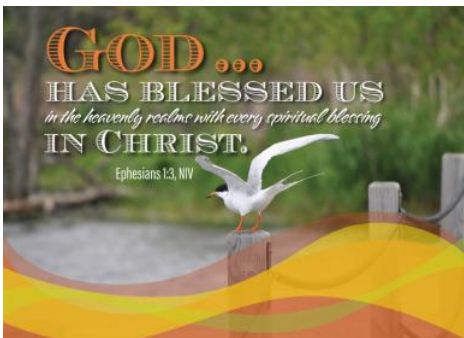
EVENING SCHEDULE:

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

M.C. — Davis Ashley, **George Stone**

Communion Meditation — Zac Dschaak, **George Stone**

Preaching — Rick Vaught, **Jay Wilson**



This Wednesday,
Jan. 1st –
7:00 p.m. —
*Character Traits of
Jesus*
– Phil Sutton

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

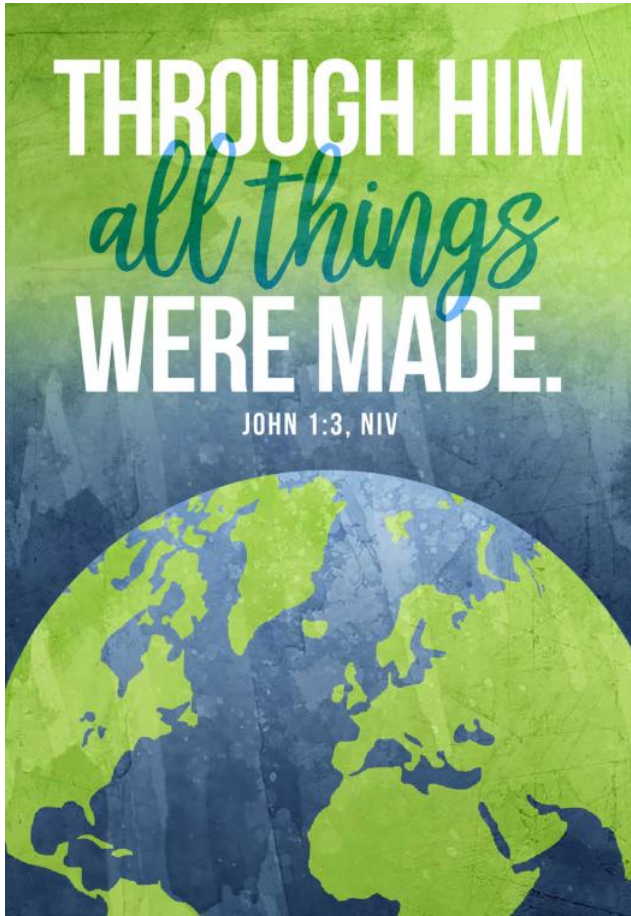
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bible Bowl — Sat. Mar. 14

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

Men's PEAKS — July 23-25

Family Camp 2020 — Sept. 4-7



Question of the week:

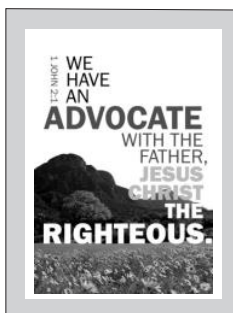
What Old Testament prophet prophecies that “the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings”?

Last week’s question: 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? *Answer: Sodom and Gomorrah (Jude 1:7).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 99
Morning Assembly – 115
Evening Assembly – 65

Wednesday Night (12/25) – 73
Butte Lord’s Day – 19
GF Lord’s Day (Wed) – 54,71,22



Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...

The Old/New Commandment

The apostle John is laboring in word to salvage the church of God which was being ravaged by the late first century antichrists. They were great salesmen, and were accomplishing their purpose by offering the first century saints a twisted gospel which had a built-in excuse for continuing in sin. Appeals to the flesh sell well, and unless the individual was a truth-seeker, he would be pulled in by such appeals. Many were falling for this onslaught on the gospel, and the church in general needed correction and direction. With the other apostles executed or far away, John is the one to step forward with reminders, doctrines, and exhortations.

- ▼ **Nothing new** — Part of the Gnostics' appeal was that they had new information. [The name *Gnostic* was given to them because of their claim that they had new or "inside" *knowledge* or information withheld from the apostles.] Hence John is going to emphasize that what he and the other apostles taught was not be changed; its foundations were there in the Old Testament writings and given by revelation to them by the Holy Spirit. "Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you," he discourses, "but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word you heard" (1 John 2:7). As Jude also pointed out: "The faith was once for all delivered" (Jude 1;3).
- ▼ **Jesus' new commandment** — Jesus did say that He was, in one manner of speaking, delivering a new commandment to the brethren, that they love others as Jesus loves. Calling on the brethren to sacrifice themselves for the truth of the gospel, John explains: "On the other hand, I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining" (1 John 2:8). Before "the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared," the concept connected with *love* was not so clearly defined (Titus 3:4). But now that love is demonstrated, it is more readily understood as specifically sacrificing for the sake of others' eternities. Hence, it is a new commandment.
- ▼ **True light shining** — For those who have been properly immersed into Christ, the apostle Paul informed us, God "is the One who has shone in our hearts" (2 Corinthians 4:6). This is not mere "metaphorical light"; this is actually the Christ of glory shining in the inner man, as revealed by the words of scripture. Thus the comment of John, "the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining." Those who are "light in the Lord," as the apostle Paul termed saints, will "walk in the light," and exhibit the characteristics of Christ Himself. "For the fruit of the light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth" (Ephesians 5:9).

**THE FAITHFUL
SAINTS "KEEP THE
COMMANDMENTS
OF GOD."**

The antichrist Gnostics of the late first century were clearly men "of flesh." Regardless of their pretenses, as men of flesh they would exhibit the characteristics of the flesh. There would be rampant immorality, fighting and jealousy, sensuality of every sort, and no doubt drinking and carousing. For some it would be out in the open; for others the deeds of the flesh would be hidden as much as possible. In either case, for those able to discern things spiritually, the fruit of walking in darkness would be evident.

The faithful saints of God "keep the commandments of God." They have their minds set on the things of the Spirit, and as a result bear the fruit of the Spirit. Their conversation is focused on things above, their interests are Biblical, and their time is spent on matters that are profitable for the expansion of the kingdom of God. Laying aside the unfruitful deeds of darkness, they are step-by-step walking as Jesus walked. They are truly "the salt of the earth" and "the light of the world."

JAY WILSON