

**WHY DO YOU BOAST IN EVIL, O
MIGHTY MAN? THE LOVINGKINDNESS
OF GOD ENDURES ALL DAY LONG**



Eagle Rock, with the moon overseeing
Missouri River Canyon
between Helena and Great Falls, MT

**“But this [rivers of living water] He
spoke of the Spirit, whom those who
believed in Him were to receive; for the
Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus
was not yet glorified.”**

John 7:39

January 5, 2020!

Christ's Church

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

MORNING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 8:45 a.m.

Opening — Jay Wilson, Josiah Sutton

M.C. — Bob Edgar

Prayer Meditation — Bob Edgar

Communion Meditation — Matt Wilson

Preaching — Jay Wilson

EVENING SCHEDULE:

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

M.C. — Phil Sutton, **George Stone**

Communion Meditation — Scott Schweitzer, **Tom McDunn**

Preaching — Davis/Elliot Ashley, **Jay Wilson**



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**This Wednesday,
Jan. 8th –
7:00 p.m. –
Character Traits of
Jesus
– Phil Sutton**

Catch us live or archived:

livestream.com/ccib

christchurchonline.com

Also check out the youtube videos on
targetingtruth.com

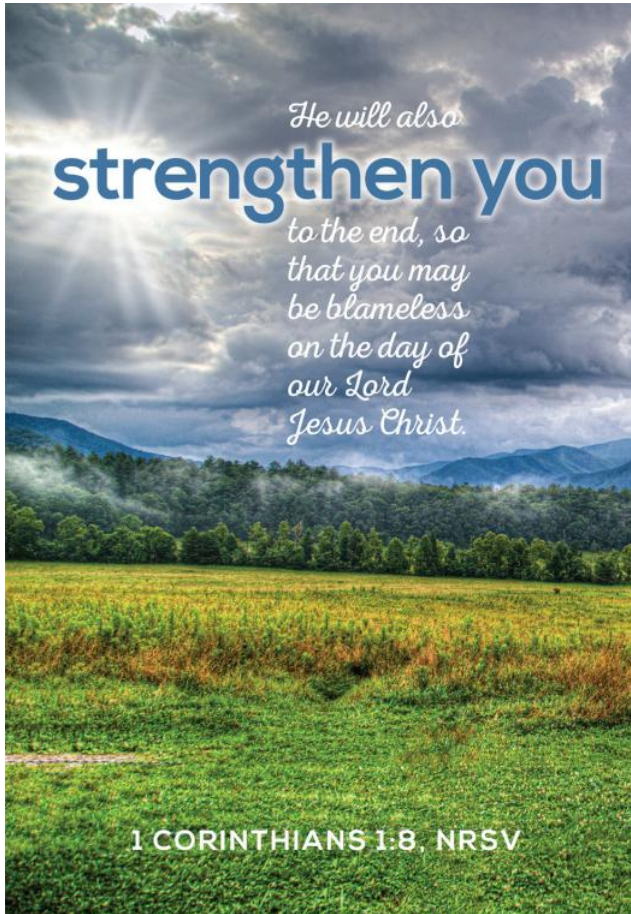
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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:

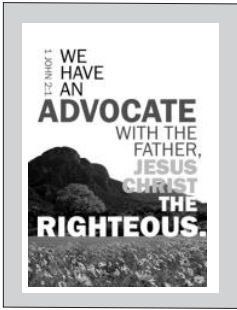
What Old Testament prophet is quoted by Matthew in saying, "A voice was heard in Ramah ... Rachel weeping for her children"?

What Old Testament prophet prophecies that "the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings"?
Answer: Malachi (Malachi 4:2).

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 85
Morning Assembly – 110
Evening Assembly – 55

Wednesday Night (1/1) – 73
Butte Lord's Day – 26
GF Lord's Day (Wed) – 49,66,27



Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...

Love vs. Hate

Satan exerts tremendous energy and propaganda to confuse both the meaning of love and the meaning of hate. It is as Isaiah the prophet commented during the days of Israel and Judah's decline: "Woe to those who call 'evil' 'good,' and 'good' 'evil'; who substitute 'darkness' for 'light' and 'light' for 'darkness'; who substitute 'bitter' for 'sweet,' and 'sweet' for 'bitter'! (Isaiah 5:20). "Love" and "hate" are powerful driving forces inside mankind; hence it is that the "master of confusion" has spent great effort in derailing the God-given definitions of those two terms. Whether it was the Romans at the time of Nero, or moderns from AD 2000 onward, Christians are often regarded as

engaging in "hate speech," arising from their supposed hatred of mankind. This, of course, is the work of Satan who twists the language. True Christians, who base their lives and views on the scripture and walk in the footsteps of Jesus, love all members of the human race. Correspondingly, they hate evil, sin, and idolatry. Because they will not compromise, they are regarded as those who hate, and whose preachments are "hate speech."

- **The passing darkness** — The apostle John is very encouraging in his Spirit-inspired analysis: "The darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining" (1 John 2:8). The forces of darkness and evil are always pictured as being short-lived, and this helps the suffering saint know that he can persevere a little longer. The true light is already shining, and the winning side is already winning!
- **Definition of hate** — The *agape* love of God is concerned about each person's eternity, concerned enough for God to give up His only begotten Son. Hate, then, is attempting to turn people aside from the glorious eternity, and having them focus somewhere else. "The one who says he is in the light," John illustrates, "and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now" (1 John 2:9). The antichrist Gnostic would claim to walk in the light, and would even claim to walk in more light than the apostles. The objective analysis is that the Gnostics were leading people down the wrong path, and therefore were the ones who hated their brothers.
- **Abiding in light** — The individual who is properly immersed into Christ, who is faithful in the application of the new covenant principles in his life, and who is constantly strengthening the saints and leading the lost to Christ, is the one who truly has the "love of God poured out in his heart through the Holy Spirit" (Romans 5:5). Of such, John says, "The one who loves his brother abides in the light and there is no cause for stumbling in him" (1 John 2:10). "He who loves his neighbor," commented the apostle Paul, "has fulfilled the law" (Romans 13:8). If a saint really loves his neighbor and is trying to set up a Bible study to save his neighbor's soul, he is not going to steal his neighbor's stuff. "Love does no wrong to a neighbor; love is therefore the fulfillment of the law" (Romans 13:10).

The apostle Paul had warned his *protégé* Timothy of the arise of wicked men. "But evil men and imposters will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived" (2 Timothy 3:13). What is interesting here is that the deceivers themselves are deceived, by the great deceiver himself! The Gnostics of the late first century were in the process of deceiving many, pretending to walk in the light while dragging as many as possible into the darkness with them. "But the one who hates his brother," John pointedly remarks, "is in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes" (1 John 2:11). Claiming to be super-enlightened, the Gnostics were clearly blind. "But if your eye is bad," averred the Lord Jesus, "your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness" (Matthew 6:23). How true!

"The one who hates his brother is in the darkness...and the darkness has blinded his eyes."

JAY WILSON