

YOUR TONGUE DEVISES DESTRUCTION, LIKE A SHARP  
RAZOR, O WORKER OF DECEIT



Late autumn sunset  
Bozeman, MT

“Some of the multitude therefore, when they heard these words, were saying, ‘This certainly is the Prophet.’ Others were saying, ‘This is the Christ.’”

John 7:40,41

# January 12, 2020!

## Christ's Church

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

### MORNING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 8:45 a.m.

Opening — Jay Wilson, Nathanael Dschaak

M.C. — Bob Edgar

Stewardship Exhortation — Joe Shanahan

Communion Meditation — Jerry Hoffman

Preaching — Jay Wilson

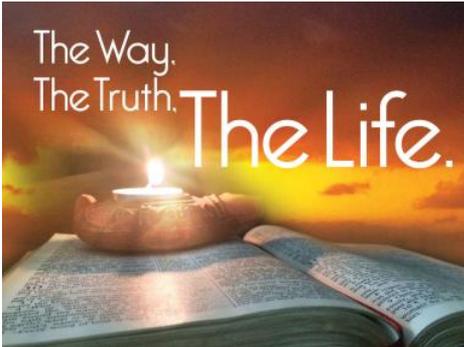
### EVENING SCHEDULE:

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

M.C. — Phil Sutton, **George Stone**

Communion Meditation — Davis Ashley, **Jay Wilson**

Preaching — Corban Icenogle, **Jay Wilson**



This Wednesday,  
Jan. 15th –  
7:00 p.m. –  
*Character Traits of  
Jesus*  
– Phil Sutton

January 25-26 - Fasting  
and prayer for evangelism. Potluck after  
assembly Jan. 26

Catch us live or archived:  
[livestream.com/ccib](http://livestream.com/ccib)  
[christchurchonline.com](http://christchurchonline.com)  
Also check out the youtube videos on  
[targetingtruth.com](http://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:**

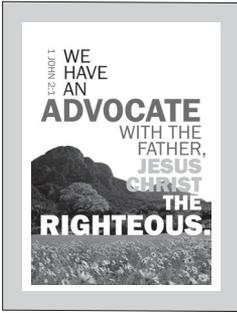
What major promise was renewed with Jacob in Genesis 26 that had been given to both Abraham and Isaac?

What Old Testament prophet is quoted by Matthew in saying, "A voice was heard in Ramah ... Rachel weeping for her children"? *Answer: Jeremiah (Matthew 2:17, 18; Jeremiah 31:15).*

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:**

Bible School – 86  
Morning Assembly – 98  
Evening Assembly – 64

Wednesday Night (1/8) – 72  
Butte Lord's Day – 21  
GF Lord's Day (Wed) – 57,88,49



Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...

## Children, Young Men, Fathers

God is the great and perfect communicator! The challenge He has, as Jesus often pointed out, is to get people really to listen. Consequently, He uses common examples from earth's experiences to be able to connect with the sons of men who are so often wayward and confused. One of the means He has of communicating is using the process of the growth of children into adults to illustrate growth of Christians. The baby learning to grab onto things, the small child taking its first steps, the little one learning to talk in sentences, the boys and girls learning the lessons of life through their experiences, the laddies challenged in growing up and the lassies stretched in developing into mature young women, both men and women struggling as the saddle of responsibility

settles heavily on their shoulders ... These are universally common for the individual, for his children, for his nieces and nephews, and for his neighbors. Hence the All Wise has a beginning point universally applicable in having conversation with the descendants of Adam.

- **"Little children"** — The church as a whole in the later years of the apostle John struggled with the onslaught of what was called "Gnosticism." These antichrists were very successful in drawing away some of the disciples after them, creating a lot of chaos in these early congregations. Regardless of their pretenses, they were perverting the gospel of Christ and were luring others down the path toward hell; they actually hated their brothers when viewed from God's perspective. "The one who hates his brother," John thusly emphasizes, "is in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes." John goes to work, reaching out to the newest and weakest saints, taking them back to some basic building blocks. "I am writing to you, little children," says he, "because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake" (1 John 2:12). The perverted gospel of the Gnostics offered a "Christ" who never took on a human body, an apparition who only appeared to die on a cross; what forgiveness could there be in that! Basic point: your sins are actually forgiven you "for His name's sake." He adds, at the appropriate point in his rhythmic prose: "I have written to you, children, because you know the Father" (1 John 2:13). Basic, powerful, and reassuring point: you actually know the Father.

- **"Young men"** — In this section, the apostle reaches out also to the next level of spiritual maturity, to the "young men." To them, the record notes: "I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one." This is a powerful and encouraging building block.

Having climbed that step, these brothers and sisters needed to maintain their faith and move forward. "I have written to you, young men," is the apostle's further thought, "because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one" (1 John 2:14). Considering this description of spiritual "young men," the modern saint may want to stop and consider whether he is one of these, or whether he is in fact in the "little children" category.

- **"Fathers"** — There is some relation between the time that a person has been converted and his spiritual maturity. Some of those who lived in these later years of John had turned to the Lord many years earlier, had suffered persecution for their faith, and had learned what was really important. "I am writing to you, fathers," encourages the apostle, "because you know Him who has been from the beginning." Ah, yes, to know God, and to be known by Him, is above all else. "I have written to you, fathers," he again stresses, "because you know Him who has been from the beginning." What more could be said!

Using the natural progression of human growth as a basis for his communication, the apostle is thus able, in a very few simple words, to encourage the brethren at every level. God, the perfect communicator through Spirit-inspired John, motivates and strengthens each saint, that each might overcome temptation and sort his way through the perils of false teachers.

Overcome!!!!

The apostle, in a few simple words, is able to encourage the brethren at every level.