My enemies and the wicked bring down trouble upon me, and in anger they bear a grudge against me



Sunset after the storm 49th Annual Men's Peaks Delmoe Reservoir, between Butte and Whitehall, MT

"Jesus therefore was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, 'If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.'"

John 8:31,32

August 16, 2020!

Christ's Church

Meeting at 30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman 2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls 401 W. Park St. — Butte

BOZEMAN 8:45 - (Elliot Ashley) 9:00 am - classes 10:00 am - Assembly Prayer Med - Gary DiPaolo L.S. - Jason Shanahan Preaching - Jay Wilson

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Opening 3:00 pm - classes 4:00 pm - Assembly Stewardship - Stan Zech L.S. - Brad Smith Preaching - Jay Wilson BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Classes 8:15 pm - Assembly L.S. - Jay Wilson Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman - Prayer and fasting Aug. 29,30

Great Falls - prayer and fasting today



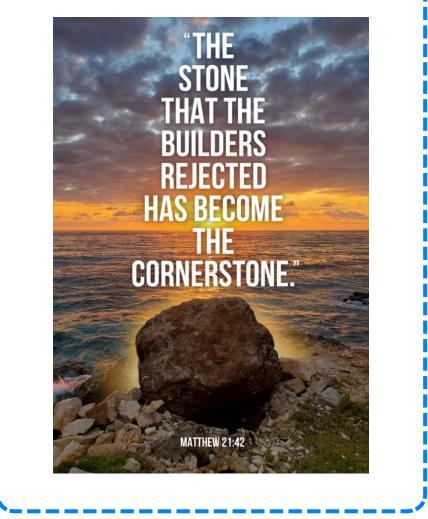
BOZEMAN -*Wed. night,* 7:00 pm: Phil Sutton on 1 Peter

GREAT FALLS -Wed. night, 7:00 pm: Video on how we got the King James Bible Aug. 23 - Potluck after assembly at Lion's Park Aug. 29 - "Back yard movie" 7:00 pm at Jim and Susie Macklin's

Catch us live or archived: livestream.com/ccib christschurchonline.com Also check out the youtube videos on targetingtruth.com, and Innerman Radio on youtube

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Family Camp 2020 — Sept. 4-7. Starts at 7:00 pm Friday evening, and closes about 11:00 am Monday. Theme: "Opening Salvo: The First Gospel Messages"



Question of the week:

Nehemiah faced a lot of opposition in getting the wall of Jerusalem built, and in getting the people on track, particularly from two men, whose families had intermarried into the Jews. Who were those two men?

Last week's question: The word of the cross, according to the apostle Paul in his epistle to the Corinthian brethren, was foolishness to what group of people? Answer: Those who are perishing (1 Corinthians 1:18).

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 87Wednesday Night (8/12) – 87Morning Assembly – 114Butte Lord's Day – 11Evening Assembly – --GF Lord's Day (*Wed*) – 38,62,45



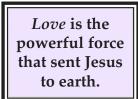
Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...

God's Love Perfected In Us

Love is a big word! In English, it is only four letters, but the concept of love—especially God's love—has many different aspects and is challenging for the brain of man to apprehend. "Love is patient," "love is kind," "love does not take into account a wrong suffered" ... these statements just begin to open the door of understanding the magnificent aspects of God's love. Among other things, love is unselfish. Hence the Almighty and All Wise God, being "love" Himself, set in motion a plan wherein that love could be shared. The two great commandments of the old covenant—"love the Lord your God with all your might ..." and "love your neighbor as yourself"—laid the groundwork for what

was to be accomplished under the terms of the new covenant. The new covenant gives Christ's disciples significant reasons why they should love God, and sets in motion the mechanism by which the love of God can be shared.

- *Love one another* Real love is a powerful force and a brightening presence. (Hate, love's opposite, is also a powerful force but less powerful than love, and brings darkness and bitterness wherever it goes.) "Love believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails [love never quits working]..." Love thus is the powerful force that sent Jesus from heaven to earth. Participating in that love through belief in and obedience to the gospel of Christ brings a clear conscience, a brightened countenance, and light in the inner man. And it shares! "Beloved, if God so loved us," posits John, "we also ought to love one another" (1 John 4:11). God is patient toward us; we should be patient toward the brethren. God is kind; we should be kind to the brethren. God cares deeply about our souls, enough to sacrifice His Son; we need to care deeply about the souls of the brethren, and be willing to sacrifice on their behalf. And the list goes on!
- God's abiding in us At this point, the apostle John sticks a statement into the discussion that seems to come from nowhere: "No one has beheld God at any time" (1 John 4:12). But the apostle is a deep thinker, and he is laying the groundwork for a concluding statement when he finishes this section. He continues: "If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us." The point that "God abides in us" is predicated on the supposition that the individual has been properly immersed into



Christ, and is walking faithfully with his God. A person can be "very loving" in human terms and not be immersed into Christ. Godly love, as a point of re-emphasis, first of all loves the other man's eternity, and, while acts of kindness may save that other individual's earthly life, those acts do not help to save that person's soul unless they are coupled with the gospel message. When the basic elements are in place, and "we" are reaching out to the lost and strengthening the brethren, then "God abides in us."

If God had not created man, then His love would have been encased, and not even understood by angels. But by setting in motion His plan to redeem man and to establish fellowship with the redeemed through His Holy Spirit, God's love is now manifested to the human race and to the angels as well. But if God's love were to remain with God alone, His love would be incomplete. When, however, His love "is poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit," and saints begin to take the message of hope and love to the lost world, then God's love is being "perfected [made complete] in us." When the saints love the brethren in the church and develop their relationships through interactions, having to learn forbearance and patience and grace, then God's love is fully "perfected in us." Love your lost neighbor (who may become your brother in the future), and love your brother who meets with you about the Lord's Table!

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