# AND I SAID, "OH, THAT I HAD WINGS LIKE A DOVE! I WOULD FLY AWAY AND BE AT REST



Luke Jacobs and Brian Schweitzer, of Bozeman working to get the lights working in the big tent Family Camp 2020 Christ's Church, Bozeman, MT

"And the slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. If therefore the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed." John 8:35,36

# September 6, 2020!

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

## MORNING SCHEDULE:

9:00 am — Bible school classes (Phil Sutton - Adult Class)
10:15 am — Assembly Meditation — Tim Danyo, Missoula, MT Communion meditation — Caleb Wilson, Great Falls, MT Preaching — Su Nguyen, Roanoke, VA

## EVENING SCHEDULE:

7:00 pm

Communion meditation — **Joel Hartford**, Richmond, VA Preaching — **Steve Doty**, Bellevue, MI Preaching — **Mike Ferguson**, Williston, ND



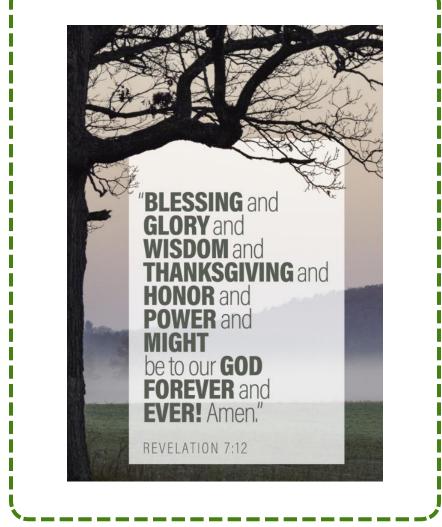
**BOZEMAN -***Wed. night*, 7:00 pm: Phil Sutton on 1 Peter

**GREAT FALLS -***Wed. night*, 7:00 pm: Luke Wilson - evangelism PowerPoints

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:

Spiritual Warriors' weekend - Oct. 30,31 MT Ladies' Advance - Billings ladies sponsoring Men's PEAKS - July 22-24, 2021 2021 Family Camp - Sept. 3-6



#### Question of the week:

In Paul's second epistle to the Corinthians, he describes how God anointed Christians. He also mentioned in that connection that something was given to saints as a pledge. What was given?

Last week's question: Even Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Jesus, is prophesied in the OT. One of those is in Psalms where he is described as a close friend of the Lord. What is the betrayer described as doing with his heel? *Answer: He "lifted up his heel" against Jesus (Psalm 41:9).* 

## ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

(Bozeman) Bible School – 82	Wednesday Night (9/2) — 82
Morning Assembly – 114	Butte Lord's Day – 15
Evening Assembly –	Great Falls Lord's Day (Wed) – 56,76,53



Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...

### "As He is, so also are We"

"I am the vine," said Jesus Christ as He neared the end of His earthly sojourn, "you are the branches" (John 15:5). His goal, as the vine, was to bear much fruit. But the vine cannot bear the fruit without the branches; hence it is that the Lord has placed Himself in the position of being dependent upon His disciples for the fruit of the harvest to come in. "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit," stated the Lord in frank and brutal honesty, "He [the Father] takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it, that it may bear more fruit" (John 15:2). The loving Father is working intimately with each branch, pruning and trimming it back (discipline, suffering, etc.) so that each Christian can become more effective in

his participation in seeking and saving the lost; every non-productive branch is stripped away. This culminates in the block-buster statement of the Lord, "By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples" (John 15:8).

The most effective "person" in impacting the lost and turning them in the direction of righteousness and God was Jesus Himself. In Him, during the days of His earthly sojourn, was the love of the Father for each soul demonstrated. His perfect patience, His kindness, His reaching out to even the "lowest" of mankind...all this was exhibited in the gospel accounts of the Christ who came into the world "to seek and to save that which was lost." Underneath that, however, was the continuing firm recognition that man needed to turn to God on God's terms. "Unless you repent," averred the Lord, "you will all likewise perish" (Luke 13:5). Having died on the cross to demonstrate the love of God for lost man, Jesus was buried, was resurrected, and was raised to the heavenly throne. In this whole process, the nature and character of God was exhibited for all who might be interested in "knowing God." "No one has seen God at any time," animadverted the apostle John. "The only begotten God, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him"

(John 1:18). This "explanation" of the Father is sufficient to give every saint every piece of information He needs to be a "partaker of the divine nature," exhibiting the character of Christ and fruit of the Spirit to a lost world.

The Father, however, is not content with merely demonstrating His nature or character to His disciples. He has put in motion a mechanism wherein the disciples can themselves also demonstrate the character of Christ to the world. "Be imitators of me," exhorted the apostle Paul, "just as I also am of Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1). How is this to be "As He *is*, so also are we in this world."

done? By mere human effort? Just as Jesus came in the flesh, died on the cross, was buried, was resurrected, appeared to the world, and ascended to the throne in glory, so also the follower of Christ. He begins in the flesh, through repentance and immersion into Christ he dies to his old self and is buried, is resurrected to walk in newness of life; he then appears as a light in the world, and is seated with Christ in a spiritual way on that heavenly throne (Ephesians 2:6). His inner man, now "beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, is being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit" (2 Corinthians 3:18). This transformation, accomplished in the inner man, provides the mechanism by which the outer man is transformed also, as he engages in a regular process of renewing the mind.

Jesus is not still on the cross, although most certainly He died on that cross. Jesus is not still standing by the empty tomb, although He certainly was raised from the dead. Jesus is not still appearing to witnesses, although He certainly did for forty days. The Jesus who *is*, in His current state as it plays out in time for the revelation and understanding of mankind, *is* the Jesus in glory. The apostle Paul stated that point in this way: "Even though we have known Christ in the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer" (2 Corinthians 5:16).

The Christian's inner man is raised with Christ and seated with Him on that heavenly throne. The character transformation is occurring. The apostle John states this ultimate picture in these simple words: "As He *is,* so also are we in this world" (1 John 4:17). This is who we *are*! Let's go and bear much fruit!!

JAY WILSON