

**THE SPEECH OF THE EVIL MAN WAS SMOOTHER
THAN BUTTER, BUT HIS HEART WAS AT WAR;
HIS WORDS WERE SOFTER THAN OIL, YET THEY
WERE DRAWN SWORDS**



Brayden Miller of Billings, MT
and Corban Icenogle of Williston, ND
Enjoying a breather at Spiritual Warriors' Weekend
Christ's Church in Bozeman, MT

**“Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone
keeps My word he shall never see
death.”**

John 8:51

December 13, 2020!

Christ's Church

Meeting at

30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman

2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls

400 W. Park St. — Butte

BOZEMAN 8:45 - Kaden Reijgers

9:00 am - classes

10:00 am - Assembly

Stewardship - Cliff Renner

L.S. - Jerry Hoffman

Preaching - Jay Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM - DEC. 6

L.S. - Jay Shoup

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 -

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

Stewardship - Steve McDunn

L.S. - Steve Durnan

Preaching - Jay Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Classes

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - George Stone

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman -

Prayer/Fasting weekend - Dec. 19,20

Fellowship dinner - Dec. 20 follow-
ing assembly

Great Falls -

Prayer/Fasting - Dec. 20



BOZEMAN -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Phil Sutton on 1 Peter

GREAT FALLS -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Jay Wilson - Creation
vs. Evolution Power-
Points and videos

Butte -

Fellowship dinner Dec. 13

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bible Bowl - Sat. Mar. 13 at Bozeman church
building

MT Ladies' Advance April 8-10 - Billings ladies
sponsoring

Men's PEAKS - July 22-24, 2021

2021 Family Camp - Sept. 3-6



**BUT GOD
RAISED HIM
FROM THE
DEAD.**

ACTS 13:30

Question of the week:

How was Gaius, who is the recipient of John's third epistle, to send brethren (especially strangers) on their way?

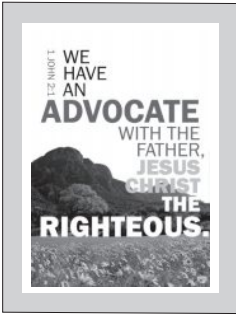
Last week's question: In a vision recorded in Daniel 7, he sees one of ten horns that will intend to make alterations in times and in law; how long will saints be given into that one's hand? *Answer: "a time, times, and half a time" (Daniel 7:25).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 88
Morning Assembly – 104
Evening Assembly – 60

Wednesday Night (12/9) – 69
Butte Lord's Day – 20
GF Lord's Day (Wed) – 73,94, W-59

Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...



Coming to “Understanding”

Jesus said, “If anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him” (John 11:10). The physical picture of someone stumbling around in the darkness because he can’t see where he is and what is around him is a great picture of the spiritual realm. When a person is in physical darkness, he knows it (unless he is blind, in which case he is in darkness all the time). But when a person is in spiritual darkness, he usually is not conscious that he is in that darkness. God, then, sent His Son into the world to “open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God” (Acts 26:18). Thus the Light of Christ is described as shining in

the darkness, but that which stays in darkness does not comprehend the Light.

- **God’s educational program** — Jesus’ command is to “go and make disciples of all the nations” (Matthew 28:19). The job of the saints, then, is to go out and enroll people in the school of Christ, and begin teaching them the basics and educate them so that they can become educators themselves. By this means, those who are total heathens can begin at the beginning and can eventually come “to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fulness of Christ” (Ephesians 4:13).
- **Coming of Christ into the world** — The entrance of King Jesus to this world, His coming as a humble and sacrificing bond-servant, is a key eye-opener for turning people from darkness to light. The apostle Paul described it in these terms, calling the event the appearing of “the kindness of God our Savior and His love of mankind” (Titus 3:4). The apostle John speaks thusly, “And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding” (1 John 5:20). Yes, He came, and through the discipling process which He instituted, true saints do have understanding!
- **Purpose of His coming** — All the way through the first epistle, the apostle John puts a tremendous emphasis on “knowing.” “By this *we know* that we abide in Him,” he had earlier stated, “and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit” (1 John 4:13). These statements are direct shots at the antichrist Gnostics working in those early congregations, who claimed as “Gnostics” (which means “those who know”) to have inside information in excess of that which was given to the apostles. The ones who really had “knowledge” were the apostles and those who listened to the apostles. “We are from God,” John had emphasized, and “he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us” (1 John 4:6). The Son of God, then, through revelation given to the apostles, “has given us understanding, *in order that we might know Him* who is true, and we are in Him who is true.” The ultimate purpose of the “knowledge” is to “know Him.”

God has given us
understanding
that we might
know Him.

The antichrists claimed to have more knowledge than the apostles, but in fact had plunged into the darkness. The true saints, following the teaching of the apostle John and the others, were the ones who were in good standing with the Almighty. They are described as “in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ.” By virtue of their belief in the gospel and obedience in immersion into Christ, they could make the claim that would stand in the courts of heaven that they were “in Christ.” By being “in Him who is true” they had access to all the blessings found “in Christ” as listed in the New Testament writings, to know Him who is true and to be in Him who is true. “This is the true God and eternal life.” Amen!

JAY WILSON