

**BUT YOU, O GOD, WILL BRING THEM  
DOWN TO DESTRUCTION**



Jared DuPaul, recently immersed into Christ  
preaching to the crowd  
Christ's Church in Great Falls, MT

**“Surely You are not greater than  
Abraham who died? The prophets  
died too; whom do You make Yourself  
out to be?”**

*John 8:53*

# December 27, 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 - Phil Sutton

L.S. - Jason Shanahan

Preaching - Jay Wilson

**L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM** -

L.S. - Tommy Widner

**GREAT FALLS - 2:45** - John Odell

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

Stewardship - Dan McDunn

L.S. - Zac Zech

Preaching - Jay Wilson

**BUTTE - 7:30 pm** - Classes

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Tom McDunn

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman -

Welcome the New Year, 7:00 pm

Thurs. Dec. 31. Bring games, snacks,  
and wear your Harvest Party costume

Great Falls -

Fellowship dinner - Jan. 3, following  
assembly



**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

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Butte -

Fellowship dinner - L.D. Jan. 17,

6:30 pm

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### 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

ROMANS 16:27, NIV

To the only wise God  
*be glory forever*  
through Jesus Christ!  
*Amen.*



**Question of the week:**

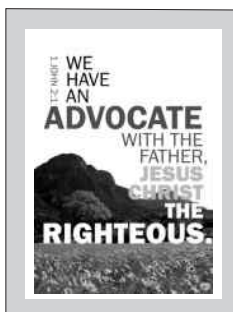
As the book of Revelation comes to a close, Jesus is mentioned as saying something about the words of the prophecy of “this book.” What does He say?

Last week’s question: Through the prophet Habakkuk God spoke of time when He would march through the earth and in anger trample the nations. For what purpose did He go forth for His people? *Answer: Their salvation (Habakkuk 3:12,13).*

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:**

Bible School – 92  
Morning Assembly – 120  
Evening Assembly – 77

Wednesday Night (12/23) – 79  
Butte Lord’s Day – 13  
GF Lord’s Day (Wed) – 49,62, W-69



Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...

## The Truth

The “catholic” epistles of the apostle John (“catholic” because they are addressed ultimately to the “church at large”) emphasize “truth.” This is certainly true of the second epistle just as it was with the first. John opens his first epistle describing how he and the other apostles beheld the Word with their eyes and handled Him with their hands—they were eyewitnesses to the truth that Jesus came to earth in a physical body. He emphasized that the saints could know the truth, stating “We shall know by this that we are of the truth” (1 John 3:19). He warned about the devil and false teachers, exhorting the saints to “test the spirits to see whether they are from God”; modern saints test the teachings against the inspired and complete

word of God. The apostle closed the first letter talking about “we know Him who is true, and we are in Him who is true.” This, he said, “is the true God and eternal life” (1 John 5:20). The first epistle clearly emphasized “truth.” Exposing the Gnostic/antichrists working in the first century church continues as part of the theme in the second epistle, as well as setting forth “the truth.”

- ▼ **The lady and her children** — The opening of the epistle is a little bit enigmatic. “The elder,” says John of himself, “to the chosen lady and her children...” (2 John 1:1). While it might have been written to a certain Christian lady, the internal language indicates that it is a much broader epistle in scope than that of one that would be addressed to a single person. John also indicates that he can’t say everything he would like to say in print, thus indicating that he is protecting the identity of his recipient. The “lady and her children” thus most likely represents an unnamed congregation, with the content to be distributed to other sister congregations as well.
- ▼ **The truth** — The truth of the gospel of Christ was being attacked in the late first century churches by antichrist elements within, those who claimed that Jesus did not come in a physical body and who therefore pushed all kinds of concomitant false doctrine as well. John speaks to “the lady” and “her children.” The “children” are the new people continually brought into the body of Christ by the preaching of the true gospel rather than a false one. John thus says, “whom I love in truth; and not only I, but also all who know the truth, for the sake of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever” (2 John 1:1,2).
- ▼ **Truth seekers** — The scripture is designed to reach those who love the truth, wherever they be on this planet, and whatever their background or upbringing. In fact, God sends “a deluding influence” down through the ranks of earth, so that those who are enemies of the truth will be separated from those who “love the truth” (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12). Those who love the truth have to fight for it, and have to fight to maintain it. Hence those who love the truth love others who love the truth; they are soldiers in the same army fighting for the same goal. And it is the only army that counts, and it is the only goal that counts.

The devil, of course, is the great liar and deceiver, and is tremendously opposed to the truth. Since the whole world lies in the power of this evil one, the world itself is not only full of lies but is set up so that the truth gets suppressed, ridiculed, and shunted aside. Truth seekers have to overcome all this opposition. They thus have brotherhood-bonding with all those who have fought through those same battles. The churches at the close of the first century were being battered by the Gnostic influences, and need the encouragement from the apostle John. He reassures them that “the truth which abides in us” will be “with us forever.” His opening to this short epistle thus contains this expression of joy from John: “I was very glad to find some of your children walking in truth” (2 John 1:4). Would that this would be his analysis today!!

JAY WILSON

“I WAS VERY GLAD  
TO FIND SOME OF  
YOUR CHILDREN  
WALKING IN TRUTH.”