

BE GRACIOUS, O GOD, FOR MAN HAS TRAMPLED UPON ME; FIGHTING ALL DAY LONG HE OPPRESSES ME



Brethren in Great Falls
having some great fellowship following Wed. evening presentation
Christ's Church
Great Falls, MT

“You say [of the Father], ‘He is our God,’ and you have not come to know Him; and if I say that I do not know Him, I shall be a liar like you, but I do know Him, and keep His word.”

John 8:54,55

“Getting the Lord’s work done in 2021!!”

January 10, 2021



Christ’s Church

Meeting at

30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman

2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls

400 W. Park St. — Butte

BOZEMAN 8:45 - Josiah Sutton

9:00 am - classes

10:00 am - Assembly

Stewardship - Andrew Wallace

L.S. - Nick Jacobs

Preaching - Luke Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

L.S. - Kaden Reijgers

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Gabe Clark

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

Stewardship - Zac Zech

L.S. - Cody Kruck

Preaching - Caleb Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Classes

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - George Stone

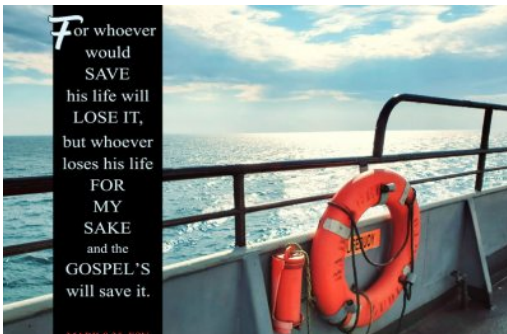
Preaching - Tom McDunn

Bozeman -

Butte -

Fellowship dinner - L.D. Jan. 17,

6:30 pm



BOZEMAN -

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

GREAT FALLS -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:
Jay Wilson??? - Creation vs. Evolution
PowerPoints and videos

Great Falls -

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



Question of the week:

When Jesus was casting out demons in the same area where he healed Peter's mother-in-law, how was He doing that?

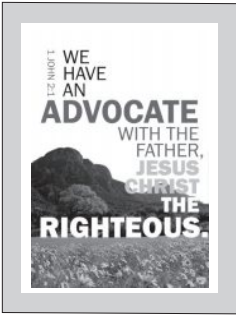
Last week's question: When the Messiah is invited to ask of the Lord to be given the nations as an inheritance as recorded in Psalm 2, what does that mean? *Answer: The Gentiles would be welcomed into the church.*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 100
Morning Assembly – 120
Evening Assembly – 67

Wednesday Night (1/6) – 67
Butte Lord's Day – 10
GF Lord's Day (Wed) – 59,71 W-57

Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...



The “New Commandment” Revisited

Occasionally brethren need to be reminded of Jesus’ statement while on His earthly sojourn: “I have come to cast fire upon the earth; and how I wish it were already kindled” (Luke 12:49). He explained that He still had to undergo the immersion of suffering, which would be followed by the general upheaval which accompanies the gospel because of men’s rejection of its terms. “Do you suppose that I came to grant peace on earth?” was His query. “I tell you, no, but rather division” (Luke 12:51). The forward movement of the gospel is always accompanied by much friction. Hence it was, in the congregations at the close of the first century, that the antichrist movement was wreaking havoc and putting great pressure on the true Christians. “I was very glad,” therefore says John, “to find some of your children walking in truth” (2 John 1:4). The “children” are the brethren, and the “lady” is the congregation to which this epistle is delivered. What is the “bottom line” motivation for the brethren to walk in truth? John includes the point in concluding the sentence: “just as we have received commandment to do so from the Father.” “Abba,” (Dad), expects that the kids will “walk in truth” regardless of pressure.

- **The commandment** — Jesus upgraded the concept of “loving your neighbor” to “loving your brother in the same way as I have loved you.” This “new love” is sacrificial, patient, positive, and instructive. It always speaks “truth,” and it also exposes lies. The first century brethren, then, were not only in the midst of fighting for their own spiritual lives but also fighting for the preservation of their congregations, and were going to have to speak the truth in love. “And now I ask you,” pleads the apostle, “not as writing to you a new commandment, but the one which we have had from the beginning, that we love one another” (2 John 1:5). Patient, persistent, promotion of the truth, exhibiting the character of Christ in all respects—that’s the only solution which could salvage the maximum number of brethren caught in the midst of this.
- **Walk in the commandment** — The brethren are not only to “walk in truth,” but they are also to walk in love. “And this is love,” John reiterates, “that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it” (2 John 1:6). The apostle keeps taking the brethren back to “the beginning,” back to the first principles. The first words of the first epistle are: “What was from the beginning...” (1 John 1:1). Jesus Christ, come initially in the flesh, later glorified, was the manifestation of life and love. The apostles not only witnessed Jesus in the flesh, but they witnessed “love” and “truth” in action. This, adverts the apostle, is that “which we have had from the beginning.” This commandment was passed on to all disciples of Jesus Christ, and thus John could say that it was also what “you have heard from the beginning.” The first and primary principle is love for all mankind, exhibited in speaking the truth.

Jesus in the
flesh was “love”
and “truth” in
action.

Biblical love requires an uncompromising stand for the truth. False doctrine, similar to lying, comes from the ultimate liar and deceiver, Satan himself. Satan is aggressive, and unleashes upon the uncompromising saint every force in his arsenal. Malicious gossip, threats and imprisonments, beatings and misrepresentation ... and much more are used to shove the saint off his track of walking in the commandment of love. But the scripture is there to encourage the sometimes battered child of faith: “Therefore, take up the full armor of God,” exhorted the apostle Paul, “that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm” (Ephesians 6:13). Stand firm, brethren, stand firm!! And walk in the commandment!!

JAY WILSON