

**Because of my foes wickedness, cast
them forth, in anger put down the
peoples, O God!**



Tracy and Cecelia Baker, of Anaconda, MT
enjoying the fellowship and getting ready for Bible clas
Christ's Church
Butte, MT

**“We must work the works of Him who sent
Me, as long as it is day; night is coming,
when no man can work.”**

John 9:4

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

February 21, 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 - Jay Wilson

L.S. - Jerry Hoffman

Preaching - Luke Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

L.S. - Luke Wilson

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Jeremy Schmiedeke

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

Stewardship - Stan Zech

L.S. - Caleb Wilson

Preaching - Jay Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Classes

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Cole Hunsicker

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman -

Prayer/fasting weekend, Feb. 27,28

with potluck following assembly.

Bring games to play for fun fellowship following potluck.

Butte -

Fellowship dinner - Feb. 21



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

Great Falls -

Prayer and fasting - Feb. 21

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

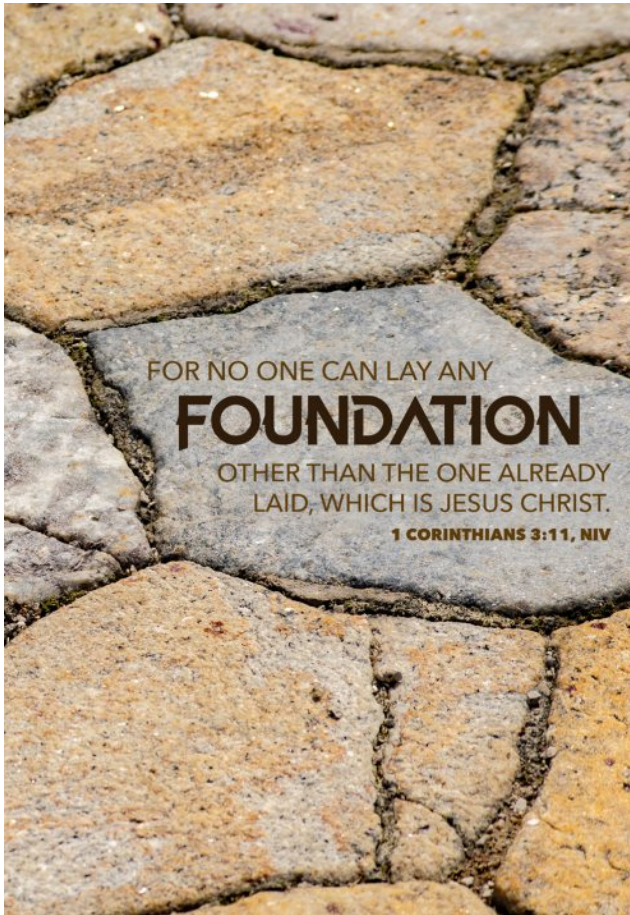
Bible Bowl - Sat. Mar. 13 at Bozeman

MT Ladies' Advance April 8-10 - Billings ladies

Badlands Family Camp - May 28-31

Men's PEAKS - July 22-24, 2021

2021 Family Camp - Sept. 3-6



Question of the week:

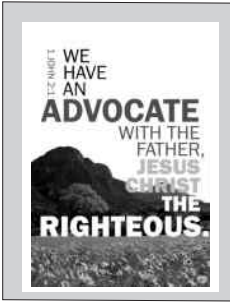
The gospel according to Mark records many miracles Jesus performed early in His ministry, including casting out demons. Why did He not permit the demons to speak?

Last week's question: What was offered once a year on the horns of the altar of incense which stood just outside the veil that separated the holy of holies from the holy place? *Answer: the blood of the sin offering (the goat) (Exodus 30:10).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 89
Morning Assembly – 110
Evening Assembly – 59

Wednesday Night (2/17) –70
Butte Lord's Day – 20
GF Lord's Day (Wed)– 71,91 W-57



Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...

Standing for the Truth

There are, in the midst of difficult times, those who will stand up for the truth. The opposition recognizes that their voices must not be heard, that they must be ridiculed or intimidated into silence. Or, failing that, they must be eliminated. A look at the history of the church as recorded in the word of God shows that all those techniques were used by enemies of the gospel. So while the apostle John does not detail those types of challenges as he talks about the Gnostic antichrist movement, the above-mentioned things would have been ongoing. He does point out that one Diotrefes was falsely accusing John and those who worked with him, and putting major roadblocks in front of those who would preach and teach the true gospel of God. He also commends men who would take a stand for truth and righteousness,

and names Demetrius as one of those.

- **Demetrius** — The apostle, in writing to Gaius, is willing to name names, pointing out Diotrefes as a bad guy, and Demetrius as a good guy. "Demetrius," says he, "has received a good testimony from everyone, and from the truth itself" (3 John 1:12). What a positive statement, to be recorded and read for all eternity!! Truth is of utmost importance to God, and those who stand for that truth will be likewise commended. John adds his statement, speaking for himself and his trusted fellow workers, "We also bear witness, and you know that our witness is true." In the midst of the antichrist storm battering the church, Gaius could trust Demetrius.
- **Proof of pressure** — There were many evil people working inside the church and promoting rebellion against the faith "once delivered." Even the apostle has to be careful, and cannot write what he would like to write in a letter that might be read by wrong people. "I had many things to write to you," he states, "but I am not willing to write them to you with pen and ink; but I hope to see you shortly, and we shall speak face to face" (3 John 1:13,14). There were many pressures on John as he works assiduously on behalf of the congregations and does everything he can to expose the errors and hypocrisy of the antichrists and their adherents.
- **Closing well-wishes** — As the apostle comes to the end in this letter to his friend and brother-in-Christ Gaius, he makes a fairly standard and yet personal closing. "Peace be to you," he writes. This is not a mere formality; he really earnestly desires that peace from God for Gaius. "The friends greet you," he adds, knowing that Gaius would know who those were. And in return, John asks for greetings from himself to the faithful brethren where Gaius assembled. "Greet the friends by name." And thus ends the epistle...

The epistles are ultimately about truth and love.

The epistles of John give modern saints a look at the battles the church was facing at the closing decade of the first century AD. In the days of Peter and Paul, the church faced major problems from the attempts of the Judaizers at injecting the Law of Moses into the new wineskin of the new covenant. This effort to function by "law" had to be opposed so the system of "faith" could be shown to be the only system that would transform man from the inside out and bring peace and stability to those congregations. But the apostle John is writing from a time twenty plus years after Peter and Paul passed from the earthly scene, and he now has to deal with the element of "lawlessness" at work within the congregations. Specifically, this lawlessness manifested itself in the antichrist doctrines, beginning with the core concept that Jesus did not come in the flesh. This provided the excuse for rebellious men, operating under the cover of "Christianity," to follow the lusts of the flesh, to follow the lust of the eyes, and arrogantly to function within the sphere of their "boastful pride of life." These John exposes.

The epistles ultimately are about truth and love, and the battle is against the forces of darkness whose wish is to crush that message. Love is transmitted by the carrier of truth, and when truth is destroyed or suppressed, then the love of God remains uncommunicated. May modern saints pick up the torch, and continue to "speak the truth in love" and to communicate the love through truth.

Jay Wilson