

**Not for my transgression nor
for my sin, for no guilt of mine
they run and set themselves
against me**



Zac Zech, of Great Falls, MT performing the wedding
with Zac Dschaak, the groom at Zac and Aubrey's wedding
"Fishin' Eddy's" River House along the Missouri River
near the Gary Cooper bridge on I-15

**"And a stranger they simply will not
follow, but will flee from him, because
they do not know the voice of strangers.**

John 10:5

"Getting the Lord's work done in 2021!!"

October 31, 2021

Christ's Church

Meeting at

30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman

2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls

Holiday Inn Express — Butte

BOZEMAN - 8:45 - Josiah Sutton

9:00 am - classes

10:00 am - Assembly

St'dship - Scott Schweitzer

L.S. - Phil Sutton

Preaching - Luke Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

L.S. - Luke Wilson

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Levi DuPaul

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - Nick Liston

L.S. - Jared DuPaul

Preaching - Jay Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Classes

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Tracy Baker

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman -

Young Adult Fellowship - Sat. 11/6,

5:30 pm, Fiesta Mexicana then

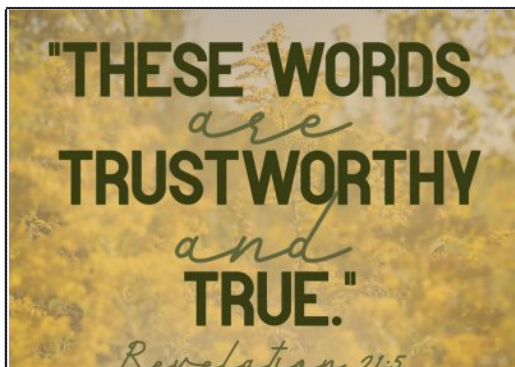
Wallace res. for movie. More info:

Andrew: 406-595-1220

Butte -

Nov. 21 -- Fellowship dinner, 6:30

pm



BOZEMAN -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Phil Sutton on 1 Peter

GREAT FALLS -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

"Expelled" (Ben Stein's intelligent design expose')

Great Falls

Harvest Party after assembly on

Oct. 31!!

Nov. 7 - Fellowship dinner follow-

ing assembly

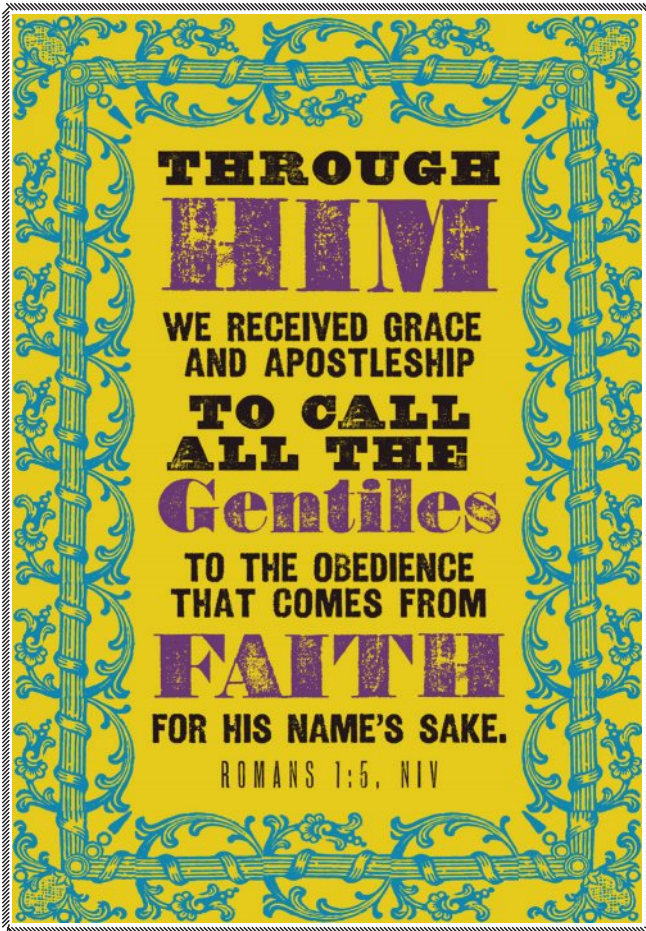
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

South Carolina Men's Retreat - Dec. 10-12

Bible Bowl - Mar. 12, 2022

Men's Peaks - July 21-23, 2022

Family Camp - Sept. 2-5, 2022



Question of the week:

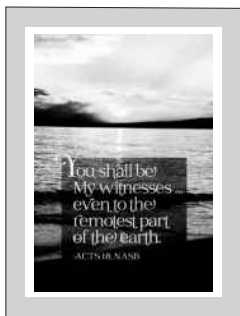
What things are "pure" for those who are pure in heart?

Last week's question: Why was Jeremiah thrown into the empty and muddy cistern in the days of King Zedekiah of Jerusalem? *Answer: He was "discouraging the men of war" by prophesying Jerusalem's fall to the Babylonians (Jeremiah 38:4).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 100
Morning Assembly – 133
Evening Assembly – 74

Wednesday Night (10/27) – 72
Butte Lord's Day – 9
GF Lord's Day – 77,89, Wed. - 44



Acts Alive ...

The Case for Citizenship

Jesus never possessed Roman citizenship. Born to parents of Jewish extraction, reared in Nazareth, He was without recourse in the Roman court system. Hence He was unjustly scourged and crucified to please the mob while a convicted insurrectionist was released instead.

But when the Lord selected Saul of Tarsus to be an apostle to the Gentiles, He picked a man who was born with full rights of Roman citizenship, and who on occasion exercised those rights to the fullest. Those who possess American citizenship under the preamble of the U.S. Constitution will do well to pay attention and to follow the example of the apostle.

Paul had been rescued from a mob with murder on their minds by a contingent of Roman soldiers. Securing permission from the commander to speak to the crowd, he communicated his conversion to Christianity. He further informed the Jewish audience that the risen Lord had told him, "Go! For I will send you far away to the Gentiles" (Acts 22:21). The mob became violent, "crying out and throwing off their cloaks and tossing dirt into the air." The commander, suspecting that Paul had done something drastically illegal in order for the crowd to be acting that way, ordered him to be scourged in order to find out the truth. When they stretched Paul out with thongs, Paul said to the centurion in charge of the proceedings, "Is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman and uncondemned?" The centurion knew this was trouble-in-the-making, so he went to the commander. "What are you about to do?" said he. "For this man is a Roman."

So the commander came to Paul, and said to him, "Tell me, are you a Roman?" When Paul assured the commander that he was in fact a Roman citizen, the commander replied, "I acquired this citizenship with a large sum of money." Paul's response was a real blockbuster: "I was actually born a citizen!"

Note the importance of being a Roman citizen. Those who were about to scourge Paul dropped his arms and stepped back, and the commander was afraid because he had put Paul in chains. From then on, the apostle had legal recourse that he used to protect himself as much as possible from the Jews, and to further the administration of the gospel. The inspired record of Acts records the following usages of Roman citizenship by Paul:

- Rescue from a heated discussion between Pharisees and Sadducees
- An armed escort from Jerusalem to Caesarea to protect him from an assassination conspiracy
- Ability to keep his case under Roman jurisdiction in Caesarea rather than being tried in Jerusalem by Jews
- Legal recourse to appeal to Caesar, the final and ultimate authority
- Protection on land and at sea all the way from Palestine to Rome
- Freedom to receive visitors and preach to the Jews in Rome while he awaited his hearing with Caesar

Earlier, he and Silas had used their Roman citizenship at Philippi. The judges who sentenced them without trial to being beaten and being placed in stocks were required to come and apologize. The magistrates "were afraid when they heard that they were Romans" (Acts 16:38). Not having given Paul and Silas a fair trial before their punishment was administered was clearly a violation of their rights as Roman citizens, and the judges could have been in big trouble. The judges "kept begging them to leave the city."

Roman citizenship was of major importance in the spread of the gospel. Even though the Roman "republic" had been shifted to "empire," enough of the trappings of the republic remained for men like Paul to use his Roman citizenship in ways that were hugely important to the spread of the gospel in the first century, and to lay the base for modern Christianity to build upon.

Most reading this have American citizenship accorded by the Declaration of Independence and the U. S. Constitution. The favorable record of the apostle Paul and his use of Roman citizenship stands before us. As the bumper sticker says: "Your Constitution: use it, or lose it."

JAY WILSON

*A favorable
record of Paul's
use of Roman
citizenship...*