## Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, That glory may dwell in our land.

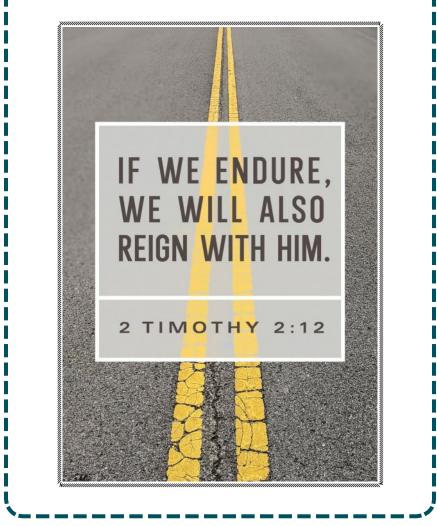


Marilyn DeMers and Carolyn Lanting Twin sisters from the Twin Falls, ID area faithful sisters in Christ, enjoying fellowship with Jay and Katie Wilson Kimberly, ID

And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise. *Galatians 3:29* 

'Follow through in 2022!!" **January 30, 2022 Christ's Church** Meeting at 30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman 2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls Holiday Inn Express — Butte BOZEMAN - 8:45 - Joe Shanahan BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Classes 9:00 am - classes 8:15 pm - Assembly 10:00 am - Assembly L.S. - Tracy Baker Preaching - Jay Wilson Praver med - Charlie Brown Bozeman L.S. - Matthew Wilson Fellowship dinner today has been Preaching - Luke Wilson rescheduled for Feb. 20 due to a lot L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM of sickness, etc. L.S. - Josiah Sutton GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Stan Zech Butte 3:00 pm - classes 4:00 pm - Assembly St'dship - Caleb Wilson L.S. - Nick Liston Preaching - Jay Wilson **BOZEMAN** -*Wed. night*, 7:00 pm: As seevants of God Phil Sutton on 2 Peter WE COMMEND OURSELVES GREAT FALLS in every way ... *Wed. night*, 7:00 pm: BY PURITY, KNOWLEDGE. "Perfectionism" - Jay PATIENCE, KINDNESS, Wilson presentation THE HOLY SPIRIT, GENUINE LOVE: and debate video BY TRUTHFUL SPEECH. and the power of God. 2 CORINTHIANS 6:4, 6-7, ESV ANNOUNCEMENTS: Great Falls OR Family Camp - Feb. 25-27 Feb. 6 - Potluck following as-Bible Bowl - Mar. 12, 2022 Lancaster Family Camp - May 27-30 sembly

> Badlands Family Camp - May 27-30 Men's Peaks - July 21-23, 2022 Family Camp - Sept. 2-5, 2022



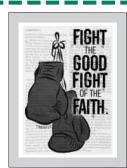
## Question of the week:

What was the name of Joseph's younger son, who was placed ahead of his brother?

Last week's question: When Matthew in his gospel account quoted Isaiah about Jesus' not breaking off a battered reed or putting out a smoldering wick, who was referenced as trusting in His name? *Answer: the Gentiles (Matthew 12:18-20).* 

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 68	Wednesday Night (1/26) — 64
Morning Assembly – 92	Butte Lord's Day – 14
Evening Assembly – 58	GF Lord's Day – 55,75, Wed 54



The Epistles to the Evangelists

## **Fruitless Discussion**

The attempt to live under the terms of the old covenant ends up being the way of death! The apostle Paul called the law system "the ministry of death, in letters engraved on stones" (2 Corinthians 3:7). Who, then, in an undeluded, right mind, would promote such a dead system? One of the key "take-aways" of the apostle's exhortations to Timothy here is that there are many people who can't think straight, who are somewhat ignorant, or who make big conclusions based on incomplete information or understanding. The "god of this world," Satan, does indeed "blind the minds of the unbelieving" (2 Corinthians 4:4).

▼ Straying away – There is a path that leads to eternal life, and Jesus called it the "small gate" and the "narrow way" (King James

Version used "strait and narrow," meaning constricted at the gate) (Matthew 7:13,14). That path is the new covenant doctrine and application which results in "love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith." The apostle Paul continues his education of the younger preacher Timothy, "For some men, straying from these things, have turned aside to fruitless discussion..." (1 Timothy 1:6). Any discussion which leads away from the truth is guaranteed to be unfruitful.

Law experts? – The "big talkers" were certainly at work! The particular way in which these men were trying to use their "straying" influence was in trying to get saints in the congregation to go back into the ways of the Law of Moses. Paul describes them as "wanting to be teachers of the Law, even though they do not understand either what they are teaching or the matters about which they make confident assertions" (1 Timothy 1:7). The apostle Paul had been a Pharisee and a teacher of the Law prior to his

conversion, and after his conversion to Christianity he was receiving instruction and revelation from the Holy Spirit Himself. When he comments that these "big talkers" did not know what they were talking about, that is hugely significant. The problem Paul had was that oftentimes his apostleship was not sufficiently recognized, or it was attacked. Timothy will have the same problem trying to get the congregation to understand that these men operating inside the church really are dangerous! They obviously



position themselves as experts since they "make confident assertions" that are totally wrong, and that will require much teaching on Timothy's part to expose the paucity of truth in their remarks.

**No problem with the Law** – The Law served a major positive purpose in God's overall plan. "But we know that the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully..." says the apostle (1 Timothy 1:8). The purpose of the Law was to bring the whole world into a position of being accountable before God (Romans 3:19). By exposing the individual as a sinner and law-breaker through the principles of the Commandments, he can now be convinced of his need of a Savior. This law is good, if the teacher uses it for what it was intended, as the apostle adds in his comments, "realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous man, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching" (1 Timothy 1:9,10). Quite a list! It even has the catch-all expression "whatever else is contrary to sound teaching" at the end so that there is no "wiggle-room" for the sinner to escape the exposure of his unrighteousness before God. This is the "lawful use" of the law, and that is why it is "according to the gospel of glory of the blessed God, with which I have been entrusted" (1 Timothy 1:1).

The congregation in Ephesus needed to be kept on the right doctrinal path, otherwise she and most of her souls would end up in the lake of fire. Timothy would indeed have to have the information and courage to "instruct certain men not to teach strange doctrines." Through this letter, Timothy clearly had Paul the apostle's backing!

JAY WILSON