"...He stationed the cherubim...to guard the way to the tree of life." -- Genesis 3:24



Some of the folks in assembly after fellowship dinner Christ's Church in Butte Butte, MT

"Do not fear what you are about to suffer... Be faithful until death and I will give you the crown of life."

Revelation 2:10

"Follow through in 2022!!"

March 20, 2022

Christ's Church Meeting at

30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman 2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls Holiday Inn Express — Butte

BOZEMAN - 8:45 - Andrew Wallace 9:00 am - classes 10:00 am - Assembly St'dship - Joe Shanahan L.S. - Phil Sutton Preaching - Luke Wilson L.D. Evening 7:00 рм -L.S. - Elliot Ashley

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Brent Borelli 3:00 pm - classes 4:00 pm - Assembly St'dship - Zac Dschaak L.S. - Jon Reijgers Preaching - Jay Wilson Butte - 7:30 pm - Classes 8:15 pm - Assembly L.S. - Tracy Baker Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman

Ladies' night; Mar. 22 - 7:00 pm at the Hoffmans. Bring snacks or desserts to share March fasting/potluck – March 26,27

<u>Butte</u> Fellowship dinner -Mar. 20, 6:30 pm



BOZEMAN -Wed. night, 7:00 pm: Phil Sutton on 2 Peter

GREAT FALLS -Wed. night, 7:00 pm: "Perfectionism" - Jay Wilson presentation and debate video Montana Youth Camp - June 12-17 - Beartooth Campground S. of Columbus

<u>Great Falls</u> Prayer and fasting – Mar. 20

<u>College-ish Fellowship weekend:</u> March 25-27, Camp Utmost

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ladies' Advance - April 14-16 Lancaster Family Camp - May 27-30 Badlands Family Camp - May 27-30 Men's Peaks - July 21-23, 2022 Family Camp - Sept. 2-5, 2022



Question of the week:

What kind of roof was on the home where the men let the paralytic down through the roof so that Jesus would heal him?

Last week's question: Early on in the wilderness, the people complained because they had no meat, so God brought quail in on the wind. What happened to many Israelites when they started eating the quail? *Answer:* While the meat was still in their teeth, the Lord struck the people with a severe plague (Numbers 11:33).

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 85 Morning Assembly – 127 Evening Assembly – 69

Wednesday Night (3/16) – 65 Butte Lord's Day – 11 GF Lord's Day – 90,105 *Wed. - 54*



The Epistles to the Evangelists

Keeping Faith and a Good Conscience

It's a good fight, indeed, in which the saints are enlisted. What greater cause could there be than one wherein souls are turned from darkness to light, from the dominion of Satan to God? What greater battlefield could there be, where the spiritual swords of the saints clash with opposing demonically driven forces? What greater purpose could there be than one in which people's future is changed from one of eternal darkness and pain to one of eternal light and pleasure? It is a good fight, and worthy of each saint's total participation, and fulfilling to the greatest degree!

But it is a *fight*! It demands full time concentration on the part of the saint just like any physical battle. "Our wrestling is not against blood and flesh," states the apostle in his letter to the Ephesians, "but

against principalities" and all the world forces of darkness (Ephesians 6:12). Wrestle is a great description because in a wrestling match the combatants are extremely intensely engaged for the full round, and if either lets up or loses concentration for even a moment, he is pinned. The saint, then, is engaged in spiritual warfare with an opponent who does not give up or let down; hence the Christian must continually recognize that he is involved in a spiritual *fight* from which there is no release until God calls him home!

Maintaining faith – Because Timothy (and each of us as well) was engaged in spiritual warfare of the utmost magnitude, it was important for him not to lose his faith as defined by the new covenant. He was to maintain the sound doctrinal positions of the apostles, he was to keep his mission of seeking and saving the lost in focus, and he was to endure all opposition and obstacles in continuing to move forward in serving the those

Lord Jesus. If Satan could get him on any one points, he would score a tremendous victory and Timothy would suffer tremendous loss.

A good conscience - God has granted to each follower of Christ a "good conscience" at his immersion into Christ. "Let us draw near" to God, says Hebrews' author, "having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water" (Hebrews 10:22). Only God can grant that clean conscience which Jesus purchased with His own blood; no The key ingredients in this spiritual fight are maintaining faith and a good conscience.

of

amount of human effort could ever accomplish that spiritual cleansing. That clean or good conscience is therefore worthy of maintaining, regardless of what external pressures might come. Paul is thus exhorting Timothy to "fight the good fight, keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith" (1 Timothy 1:18,19).

Some bad examples - A disciple of Christ is about to violate his conscience whenever he starts to make long explanations and excuses about what he is getting ready to do (or getting ready not to do). His conscience has already triggered what the decision should be; now the saint has to process whether he is going to do "what is right" or whether he is going to do something the flesh would rather do. Paul is warning Timothy that anyone who starts down that road is going "to suffer shipwreck" and lose his faith on the coral reef of that particular temptation. Lest Timothy think that Paul is speaking in hypothetical terms, the apostle brings the names of a couple of men whom apparently were known to Paul's protégé: "Among these are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have delivered over to Satan, so that they may be taught not to blaspheme" (1 Timothy 1:20).

This is indeed life or death combat in the spiritual realm. It was for Timothy, and it is for us. The key ingredients in this fight are maintaining faith and a good conscience. Those are not the "properties" which a person would normally think of in terms or protecting territory in a fight. But such it is in the spiritual realm, and this instruction to Timothy should guide modern saints in the raging battles to come. GO, FIGHT, WIN!!

JAY WILSON