

**“AND I APPEARED TO ABRAHAM, ISAAC, AND  
JACOB AS GOD ALMIGHTY [EL SHADDAI]”  
-- EXODUS 6:3**



Kevin Simpson, Josh Bantam, and Brad Shaw  
involved in world-changing conversation  
48th Street Church of Christ  
Billings, MT

**“... The Scripture cannot be broken.”  
*John 10:35***

“Victory in 2023!!”

## January 1, 2023

### 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

9:00 am - classes

10:00 am - Assembly

Prayer med - Jay Wilson

L.S. - Tommy Widner

Preaching - Luke Wilson

**L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -**

**\*DANIEL**

L.S. - Elliot Ashley

**GREAT FALLS** - 2:45 - Stan Zech

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - Caleb Wilson

L.S. - Brad Smith

Preaching - Jay Wilson

**BUTTE** - 7:30 pm - Classes

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - TBA

Preaching - Jay Wilson

#### Bozeman

Jan. 14 - Young Adult Fellowship

6:00 pm: Clue night

Jan. 21 - Girls 12-17 study, 9-11

am at the building. Contact: Talitha

DuPaul

#### Butte

Jan. 15 - Fellowship dinner 6:30 pm

BE JOYFUL IN *hope.*  
PATIENT IN *affliction.*  
ROMANS 12:12, NIV  
FAITHFUL IN *prayer.*



**BOZEMAN** -

**Wed. night**, 7:00 pm:

*Book of Proverbs*

**Phil Sutton**

**GREAT FALLS** -

**Wed. night**, 7:00 pm:

*“New Creation Information”*

#### Butte

Dec. 18 - Fellowship  
dinner 6:30 pm

#### Great Falls

Fellowship dinner - Jan. 1.

Theme: “Favorites”

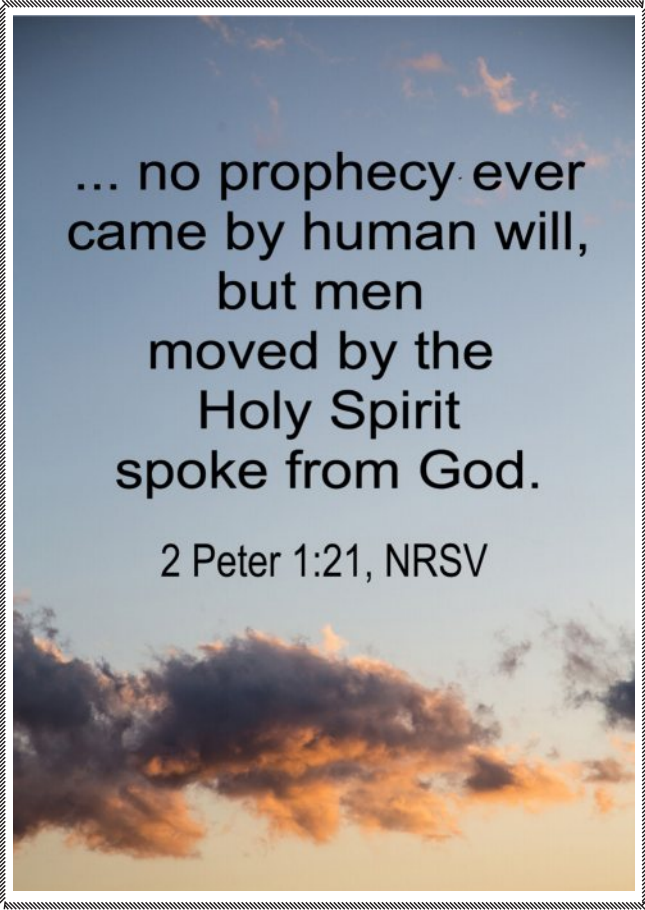
#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Bible Bowl** - Mar. 11, 2023

**Ladies' Advance** - April 13-15, 2023

**Men's Peaks** - July 20-22, 2023

**Family Camp** - Sept. 1-4, 2023



... no prophecy ever  
came by human will,  
but men  
moved by the  
Holy Spirit  
spoke from God.

2 Peter 1:21, NRSV

**Question of the week:**

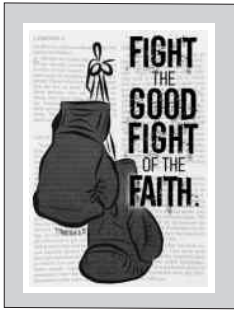
According to Zechariah, where he speaks of every cooking pot in Jerusalem as being holy to the Lord, he also says there will be no \_\_\_\_\_ in the house of the Lord of hosts on that day.

Last week's question: In the book of Revelation, those who had come off victorious from the beast were standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God, and singing. What song were they singing? *Answer: the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb (Revelation 15:3).*

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:**

Bible School – 81  
Morning Assembly – 102  
Evening Assembly – 60

Wednesday Night (12/28) – 65  
Butte Lord's Day – 6  
GF Lord's Day – 51,65 Wed. - 50



## The Epistles to the Evangelists

### A Weighty Charge

The “call to eternal life” is also the “upward call” (1 Timothy 6:12; Philippians 3:14). It not only requires a heavenly focus, but it also requires a fight to overcome the downward pull and pressures emanating ultimately from Satan’s realm. Hence the apostle reminded Timothy of the courageous “good confession” that he had made in the presence of many witnesses, prefaced with these words: “I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus...” Timothy was being “charged” in the presence of God and of Jesus Christ to fight the good fight of faith, and take of hold of eternal life! The point is well emphasized—it is a tremendous fight!

● **Keep the commandment**—Paul rephrased his charge to Timothy.

Following the thought process through, the apostle says, “I charge you...

that you keep the commandment without stain or reproach” (1 Timothy 6:13,14). The commandment, from a new covenant perspective, is connected to loving God, loving yourself, loving your neighbor, loving the church, and loving others as Christ loved the world. “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God,” was the apostle John’s exhortation, “everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love” (1 John 4:7,8). This “love” is concerned first of all about the next person’s eternity, as exhibited by the apostle Paul in his instruction to Timothy.

- **No blemishes** – “Without stain,” Paul challenged Timothy, in regard to keeping the commandment, “or reproach.” Timothy, in doing the work of an evangelist, would need to keep himself morally on track because sin issues impact the mind and the effectiveness of the one entrusted with carrying the gospel. “Abstain from fleshly lusts,” was Peter’s general exhortation, “which wage war against the soul” (1 Peter 2:11). The less internal warfare there would be for Timothy, the more energy could be expended in reaching the lost and helping the saved stay on track.
- **Focus to the finish** – Part of the mental perspective for the Christian is that his suffering is only for a short time—“momentary, light affliction” was the terminology of the suffering apostle. Similarly, the mental perspective of the saint is that the return of the Master Jesus is imminent. “Therefore be on the alert,” instructed the Christ Himself, “for you do not know when the master of the house is coming, whether in the evening, at midnight, at cockcrow, or in the morning—lest he come suddenly and find you asleep” (Mark 13:35,36). Timothy, then, is “to keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Timothy 6:14).
- **Proper time** – There are always those who try to calculate the time of Jesus’ return, based on various and vagary assumptions from the Old Testament writings or some contrived hidden meanings in those of the new covenant. The scripture is plain about the appearing of Christ, “which He will bring about at the proper time” (1 Timothy 6:15). Apparently saints can do something (probably evangelism) to hasten “the coming of the day of God,” but as Jesus said during the days of His earthly sojourn, “of that day and hour no one knows” (2 Peter 3:12; Matthew 24:36). God, pointed out the apostle Paul to the Athenians on Mars Hill, “has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead” (Acts 17:31). Timothy: keep your focus to the finish, and beyond!

**Timothy needs to be firm in the faith, expecting the Lord’s return!**

The challenges to preaching the gospel in the first century were great, and the persecution was often intense. Timothy himself was going to have personal jail time, as noted by Hebrews’ author, “Take notice that our brother Timothy has been released” (Hebrews 13:23). Timothy needs to be reminded of the courage he had when he made the good confession, he needs to keep the commandment without stain, and he needs to be firm in faith while expecting the Lord’s sudden return. True of all modern saints as well....