

**“FOR MANOAH [THE FATHER OF SAMSON] DID NOT KNOW THAT [THIS APPEARANCE OF JESUS] WAS THE ANGEL OF THE LORD.”**

**-- JUDGES 13:6**



Solid ice and snow on I-15  
Missouri River Canyon  
on the road to Great Falls, MT

**“Behold, now is ‘the acceptable time,’  
behold, now is ‘the day of salvation.’ ”**

***2 Corinthians 6:2***

“Victory in 2023!!”

## February 12, 2023

### Christ's Church

Meeting at

30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman

2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls

Holiday Inn Express — Butte

**BOZEMAN - 8:45 - Elliot Ashley**

9:00 am - classes

10:00 am - Assembly

Prayer med - Gary DiPaolo

L.S. - Jason Shanahan

Preaching - Luke Wilson

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

**\*THE FIRST ALPHABET!! - VIDEO**

L.S. - Kaden Reijgers

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

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

Srdship - Brad Smith

L.S. - Brent Borelli

Preaching - Jay Wilson

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

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Jay Wilson

Preaching - Jay Wilson

#### Bozeman

**Fasting & Prayer - Feb. 18,19**

**Fellowship dinner - Feb.19** following assembly. Theme: Italian

#### Butte

**Feb. 19 - Fellowship dinner 6:30 pm**



**BOZEMAN -**

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

*Book of Proverbs*

**Phil Sutton**

**GREAT FALLS -**

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

*PowerPoint - "Mentally Tough -- The secret of winning at sports applied to winning at life and for eternity"*

#### Great Falls

**Feb. 19 --** prayer and fasting for evangelism

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

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

**Montana Youth Camp - June 11-16**

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

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

If Christ is in you, though  
**the body is dead**  
because of sin, yet



**the spirit is alive**  
because of righteousness.

ROMANS 8:10, NASB

**Question of the week:**

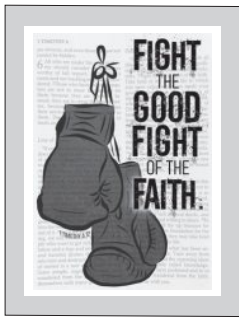
When God gave Moses instructions in regard to the cherubim on the top of the mercy seat, what did God say that He would do between the wings of the cherubim?

Last week's question: When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the donkey and her colt, some in the multitude wanted to know who this was. What was the crowd's answer? *Answer: "the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee" (Matthew 21:11).*

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:**

Bible School – 96  
Morning Assembly – 120  
Evening Assembly – 83

Wednesday Night (2/8) – 86  
Butte Lord's Day – 15  
GF Lord's Day – 57,80 Wed. - 50



## The Epistles to the Evangelists

### Appointing Elders

On Paul's first missionary journey with Barnabas to Cyprus and the interior of what is now Turkey, there were only three people on the team (and one those, John also called Mark, bailed out on them and went back to Jerusalem). But within two decades of hard work, much suffering, and tremendous travel, the apostle had a team of preachers, teachers, and other workers spread out over his mission field—what he called his “sphere” in his second epistle to the church at Corinth (2 Corinthians 10:13). A number of his letters are instructions to members of that team, including this epistle to Titus. The apostle reminds Titus that Paul himself was entrusted with the proclamation of the gospel, and that this was in accordance with the commandment of *God our Savior*. As he greets Titus, he sends grace and peace from God the Father and *Christ Jesus our Savior*. An interesting description of the relationship between the Father and Son...

- **Reminder of mission** – As one of Paul's trusted team members, Titus receives some reminders from the apostle, Paul's tweaking his previous instructions or providing points of emphasis. “For this reason I left you in Crete,” comes one of those reminders, “that you set in order what remains, and appoint elders in every city as I directed you” (Titus 1:5). Two big jobs to be accomplished (if possible) for all the congregations on the island of Crete: 1) set things in order, and 2) appoint elders! Titus was well-experienced by this time in his labors for the Lord, and would necessarily have the respect from the congregations to be able to come in from the outside and to correct what needed correcting, and to redirect what needed redirecting. He would not only need that respect, but he would need to have the good judgment necessary for his efforts to have positive outcomes. The apostle Paul trusts this man!
- **Appointment of elders** – The appointment of elders has already been covered in the sections on the subject in the comments on 1 Timothy. Some brief review points are in order:
  - Elder (older man), overseer (bishop), and pastor (shepherd) are different terms describing the same office. Hence Paul tells Titus to “appoint elders” but speaks of the man being appointed as an “overseer” (Titus 1:7).
  - Elders are appointed by the laying-on-of-hands by an evangelist
  - There is a plurality of elders in a congregation (not just one *bishop*)
  - Elders must be married, have children who believe, and be of exemplary character.
  - Elders must “hold fast to the faithful word” in accordance with the apostles’ doctrine
  - The elder must be able “both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict” (Titus 1:9).
  - The teaching on the eldership is given by the Lord Jesus Himself through the Holy Spirit, and is not subject to negotiation or compromise.
- **Importance of Biblical eldership (presbytery)** – Congregations consist of sheep who are intelligent, but who need shepherding. A look at the seven churches of Asia as recorded in the book of Revelation (in which Paul, Timothy, and Titus were involved in varying degrees) shows that it is very difficult to keep a congregation on track. Not only are there doctrinal issues that need constant shepherding, but also the evangelistic thrust, as given in Jesus’ marching orders to the church, needs to be maintained. A well-functioning eldership provides the stability that a congregation needs, and provides a God-ordained mechanism for dealing with problems.

**This is the  
pattern for all  
modern true  
evangelists.**

Momentum is such a huge topic. The word momentum doesn't appear in the sacred text, but the concept is there every step of the way, from God's calling Abram out of Ur of the Chaldees stretching to the gospel's being preached “to the remotest part of the earth” and millions being converted (Acts 1:8). Momentum is super important for each congregation as well. The presbytery is God's way of providing momentum so that sound doctrine and the mission of the congregation carry over in a positive way from one generation to the next.

Paul's statement to Titus is not to be glossed over: “For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might set in order what remains, and appoint elders in every city as I directed you” (Titus 1:15). This is also the pattern for all modern true evangelists, working in the specific areas where they have been placed by God's strategic hand.