# "For the soul of the [SACRIFICIAL ANIMAL] IS IN THE BLOOD...FOR IT IS THE BLOOD BY REASON OF THE SOUL; THAT MAKES ATONEMENT." -- LEVITICUS 17:11



Some of the kids and the crowd 35+ years of Annual Bible Bowl Christ's Church in Bozeman

"I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life." John 8:12

# **April 2, 2023**

# Christ's Church

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

**BOZEMAN -** 8:45 - John Odell 9:00 am - classes 10:00 am - Assembly St'dship - Scott Schweitzer L.S. - Bob Woodburn

Preaching - Luke Wilson
L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM \*KADEN REUGERS - PREACHING

L.S. - Brian Schweiter **Great Falls -** 2:45 - Jared DuPaul

3:00 pm - classes 4:00 pm - Assembly St'dship - Brent Borelli

> L.S. - Brad Smith Preaching - Jay Wilson

**BUTTE -** 7:30 pm - Classes 8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Tracy Baker Video pres. - Exodus

### Bozeman

**April 22 -** Girls' ages 12-17 study at building 9:00-12:00. Contact Talitha

Congratulations to *Cat Moreland*. She was immersed into Christ on Thurs. Mar. 30 by Andrew Wallace. Cat works at a local bakery and has been in Bible study for some time.

April 16 - Fellowship dinner 6:30 pm



BOZEMAN - Wed. night, 7:00 pm: Jerry Hoffman

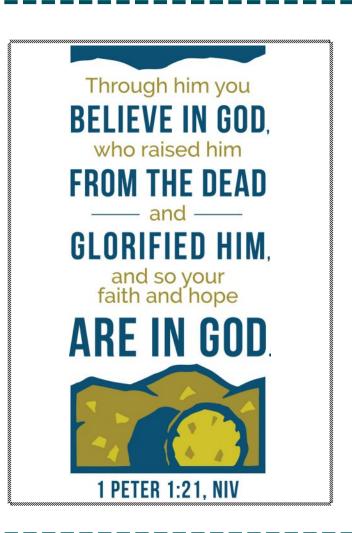
Great Falls - Wed. night, 7:00 pm: PowerPoint - "Mentally Tough -- The secret of winning at sports applied to winning at life and for eternity"

### Great Falls

April 2 - Fellowship dinner following assembly. Theme: Mexican

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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



### Question of the week:

What will Jesus' response, at His second coming, be toward those who were ashamed of Him and His words?

Last week's question: If someone accidentally killed another person, and fled from the family "blood avenger," where did he flee to, and how long was he to stay there? Answer: He was to flee to one of the six cities of refuge, and he was to remain in that city (not even going outside its walls) until the death of the current high priest (Numbers 35:22-28).

### ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 67 Morning Assembly – 94 Evening Assembly – 76 Wednesday Night (3/29) – 74 Butte Lord's Day – 6 GF Lord's Day – 57,80 *Wed. - 57* 



The Epistles to the Evangelists

### **Instructions for Bond-Slaves**

A significant percentage of first century Christians were slaves. Slaves, not being able to own property and therefore not able to move about whenever and wherever they wished, had special challenges that are not part of the free man's life. One of the problems a slave would have would be able to be motivated. Whether a person worked hard or slacked off, he was still a slave, with no upward mobility for the most part and no increase in "wages." It is easy to see how a slave's attitude could drift toward the bottom, and he could become surly and lazy. The apostle Paul, and the Holy Spirit, have some instructions.

• Subject to masters – The natural tendency for a slave would be to be as rebellious as possible, and to do as little as possible. Paul tells Timothy, "Urge bondslaves to be subject to their own masters in

everything..." (Titus 2:9). As Paul reminded the slaves in his epistle to the Colossians, "It is the Lord Christ whom you serve" (Colossians 3:24). Being able to see past the earthly master, and recognizing that a slave should have a servant's heart for Jesus, he could carry out Paul's exhortation. He could be subject to his master, and he could be subject "in everything"!

- Well-pleasing God's goal for the slave is that he do more than a merely average
  job; "well-pleasing" is the word He uses. That means "going the extra mile," showing creativity and initiative within the guidelines that the master expects, exhibiting
  a great attitude, thinking ahead, and setting up the person who follows with a good
  work situation.
- Not argumentative It is no fun working with someone who wants to argue about every point; in fact a person who wants to fight every step is actually using resistance as a means to get out of work. Paul says slaves are not to be "argumentative." As the saying is, "Just do your job!"
- Not pilfering One of the core Commandments is, "Thou shalt not steal." When a slave might feel that he was being overworked and underappreciated, he might drift into the mindset that he is "owed" something for his work that he is not receiving directly. At that moment of temptation the words of Paul to the slave need to kick in: "not pilfering." Big or small, pilfering is stealing, and wrong for all.

the uniform of "the doctrine of Christ."

The saint wears

 Showing all good faith – Something done "in good faith" is done with honest and sincere intentions.

Paul wants Titus to have slaves always "showing all good faith"; they need to demonstrate their trustworthiness to all around them. A slave such as this could be trusted with cash, or to carry out a mission faithfully. A good example comes from the days of Abraham where he trusted one of his servants to take a retinue of men, ten camels, and a lot of jewelry to Paddan-Aram and to bring back a bride for Isaac. That trusted servant was "showing all good faith"!

Christian slaves, then, were to recognize that ultimately, they were serving Christ, and their mission was to serve their masters in such a way that Christianity would be highly regarded rather than denigrated. Slaves were "to adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect" (Titus 2:10). Once again, the teaching of Christ is to translate into the actions of the disciple.

Lessons can be drawn from the instructions for slaves. Many modern saints are employees. It is true that they are voluntarily employed rather than conscripted, but if a slave who was in his position involuntarily was instructed by Paul, how much more the free man would desire to implement those instructions in his place of employment. It is worthy of careful consideration: "Urge bondslaves to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, not pilfering, but showing all good faith that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect" (Titus 2:9,10).

Slave or free, the saint wears the uniform of "the doctrine of Christ," and as Christ's representative to those around him, he is to bring glory to Christ by his exemplary conduct and attitude. Consistent good cheer and high-performance count!

JAY WILSON