

**He permitted no man to oppress them ,
[Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob]
And He reproved kings for their sakes:
“Do not touch My anointed ones,
And do My prophets no harm.”
-- Psalm 105:14,15**



“Where the rocks and the mountain fell on them”
slide which broke loose in the Aug. 1959 earthquake
killing 29 people who should have been ready to meet the Lord
Quake Lake on the Madison River
50 miles upriver from Ennis, MT

**When He arrived at the place [Gethsemane],
He said to them, “Pray that you may not enter
into temptation.”**

Mark 4:24

“Victory in 2023!!”

September 17, 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

St'dship - Charlie Brown

L.S. - Jerry Hoffman

Preaching - Luke Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

*** ANDREW WALLACE**

L.S. - Elliot Ashley

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Stan Zech

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - Caleb Wilson

L.S. - Nathan Zech

Preaching - Jay Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Classes

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Jay Wilson

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman

Prayer and fasting weekend Sept.

23,24. Potluck following assembly

Sept. 24. Theme: Southern food

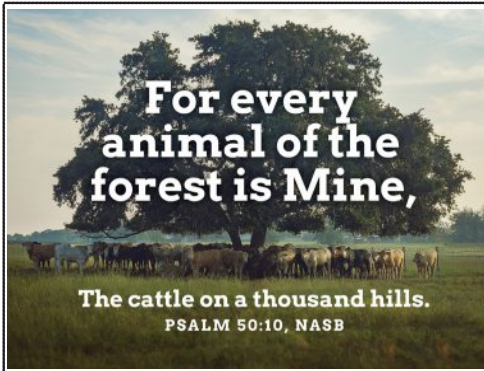
Great Falls

Prayer and fasting - Sept. 17

Butte

Fellowship dinner - Sept. 17, 6:30

pm



BOZEMAN -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Book of Hebrews

Luke Wilson

GREAT FALLS -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Jay Wilson

Bozeman - Girls ages 12-17 study will be on September 30th, come to the Wallace's at 8:30 for homemade pumpkin scones, followed by a fun fall girls photo shoot! Pickup will be at the Wallace's at 12:00.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

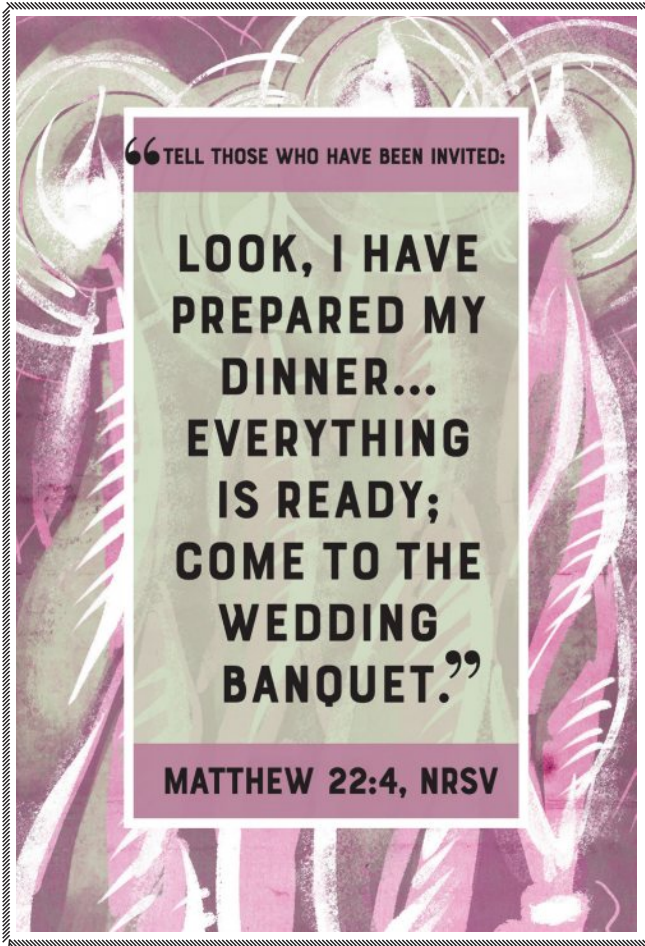
Spiritual Warriors' Weekend - Oct. 27,28

Bible Bowl - Mar. 16, 2024

Ladies' Advance - Bozeman ladies in charge

Men's Peaks - July 25-27, 2024

Family Camp - Aug. 30-Sept. 2, 2024



Question of the week:

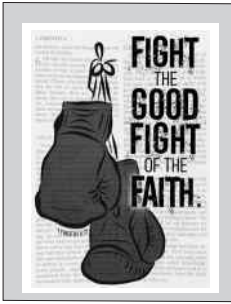
In the opening of Paul's epistle to the Galatians, he spoke of Jesus' giving Himself for our sins, and for what other purpose?

Last week's question: What does it say in Proverbs chapter 21 about a man who wanders from the way of understanding? Answer: "He will rest in the assembly of the dead" (Proverbs 21:16).

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 74
Morning Assembly – 99
Evening Assembly – 76

Wednesday Night (9/13) – 67
Butte Lord's Day – 10
GF Lord's Day – 72, 84 Wed. - 62



The Epistles to the Evangelists

Retain the Standard

The devil is real, and the demonic forces are working in every area of human existence. The goal of the realm of darkness is to keep people from the light in the first place, and to knock them out of the light in the second. Paul, in writing to the church at Ephesus, had commented that “we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming” (Ephesians 4:14). The pressures for an evangelist to cave in to the whims and vagaries of a fickle public are strong also. The apostle Paul emphasized in his epistle to the Galatian brethren, who were being subjected to pressure to cave in to the Judaizers, “If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ” (Galatians 1:10). Timothy,

who had to be encouraged to use the gift of God which was in him through the laying on of Paul’s hands, needs some strengthening here.

- **Sound words** – There are empty words, doctrines conjured up out of the imaginations of men, without substance or backing. By contrast, Paul tells Timothy to “Retain the standard of sound words” (2 Timothy 1:13). These “sound words” are those with the backing of God, who exerted tremendous effort in establishing the truthfulness of the Old Testament, and used those to lay the groundwork for the New Testament. These sound words, Paul says, are those “which you have heard from me.” God showed his support for the testimony of the apostles, as Paul noted in his comments to the church at Corinth, “The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles” (2 Corinthians 12:12). These words, then, are trustworthy, and there are no other words used on planet earth that match the scriptures for having been established as embodying “the truth.”
- **Retain the standard** – As mentioned, the pressures to conform to the world are strong. When Paul therefore tells Timothy to “retain the standard of sound words,” that is an injunction for him (and all future teachers and preachers) to hold the line against encroachments of false doctrines. Sometimes the encroachments come from the “law side,” as Paul pointed out to the Galatian brethren, saying that “false brethren who had sneaked in to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, in order to bring us into bondage” (Galatians 2:4). They “sneaked in!” And sometimes the encroachments come from the “lawless side.” “For certain persons have crept in unnoticed,” was Jude’s concerned comment, “ungodly persons who turn the grace of God into licentiousness” (Jude 1:4). They “crept in!” There are always powerful forces at work against the truth of scripture doctrines, and Timothy is going to have to be very mentally tough and determined to “retain the standard.”

The work of God can only be done through the “standard of sound words.”

There is a tendency, when a saint is trying to maintain the standard of sound doctrine, to be defensive about it, and not handle the situation well. So when Paul was discussing the “winds of doctrine” and the “trickery of men,” he followed that with these words: “speaking the truth in love” (Ephesians 4:15). Stephen, the first recorded martyr for the faith, was a great example of so doing. When men from the Synagogue of the Freedmen (which apparently included one Saul of Tarsus, later this very same apostle Paul) argued with him, “they were unable to cope with the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking” (Acts 6:10). The apostle Paul therefore exhorts Timothy to retain the standard of sound words “in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus” (2 Timothy 1:13). The *faith* would be a necessary ingredient in Timothy’s being able to conduct himself well, Timothy’s believing that God would strengthen him with power through His Spirit in the inner man. Likewise, the *love* would be necessary, giving the lost or straying maximum opportunity to change their lives to align with God’s word. The Father’s mission is still to seek and save that which was lost; but that seeking and saving can only be done through the truthfulness of “the standard of sound words.”

JAY WILSON