

**David praising God for the materials offered for the temple:
“But who am I and who are my people that we should be
able to offer as generously as this? For all things come from
You, and from Your hand we have given You.”
-- 1 Chronicles 29:14**



“Lots of conversations”
brethren visiting following morning assembly
Christ’s Church
Bozeman, MT

**“I have no greater joy than this, to hear of
my children walking in the truth.”**

3 John 1:4

Win one more in 2024 - "...he who is wise wins souls" - Proverbs 11:30

September 22, 2024

Christ's Church

Meeting at

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

BOZEMAN - 8:45 - Luke Jacobs

9:00 am - classes

10:00 am - Assembly

Prayer med - Elliot Ashley

L.S. - Jason Shanahan

Preaching - Luke Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

*** GROUPS STUDY - PHILIPPIANS**

L.S. - Bob Edgar

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Stan Zech

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - Dan McDunn

L.S. - Steve McDunn

Preaching - Jay Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Class

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Jay Wilson

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman

Great Falls

Congratulations to Caleb and Chloe

Wilson, who were married in Great Falls on Sat. Sept. 21!



BOZEMAN -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Study on Hebrews

Luke Wilson

GREAT FALLS -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Jay Wilson

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Spiritual Warriors - Fri, Sat, Oct 25,26

Bible Bowl - March 15, 2025

Ladies' Advance - May 1-3, 2025

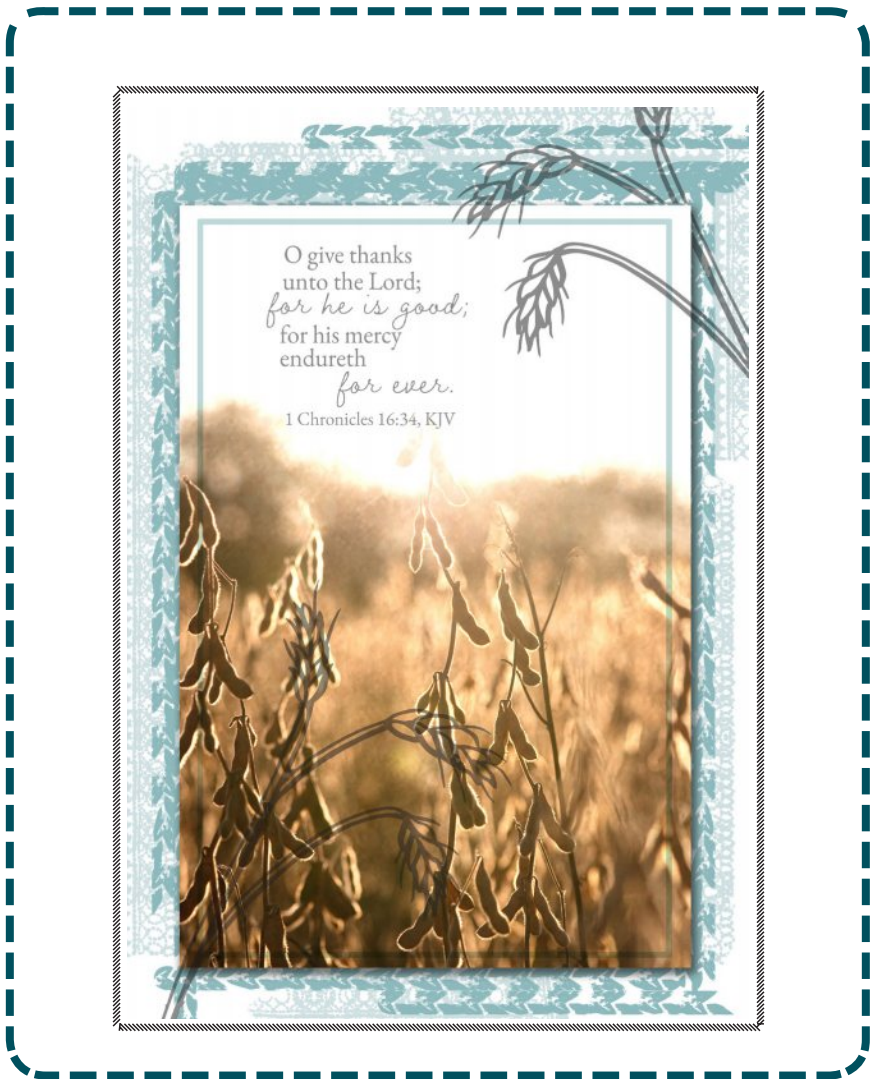
Men's Peaks - July 24-26, 2025

Family Camp - Aug. 29 - Sept. 1, 202

Great Falls

Oct. 5 - Fellowship dinner following assembly. Theme: "baked potato bar"

Butte



Question of the week:

Isaiah speaks of a time when the moon will be “abashed” and the sun “ashamed” (NASB1995). What will happen on Mt. Zion and in Jerusalem (references to the church)?

Last week’s question: In 2 Corinthians 13, the apostle Paul challenges the Corinthians (and us) to test ourselves. For what purpose? *Answer: to see if we are in the faith (2 Corinthians 13:5).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 64
Morning Assembly – 90
Evening Assembly – 45

Wednesday Night (9/18) – 50
Butte Lord’s Day – 18
GF Lord’s Day – 81, 99 *Wed. - 53*



Reasonings from Revelation

To the Church in Smyrna

The pointer moves clockwise from Ephesus to Smyrna, sliding to the north. “And to the angel of the church in Smyrna,” says the sacred word, “write.” This message, directed to the one who will read this letter aloud in the congregation, is from “The first and the last, who was dead, and has come to life” (Revelation 2:8). Jesus Christ, risen from the dead and ascended to the power position on high, is “the first and the last.” He is the great I AM, who has always been and who always will be!

• **Tribulation and poverty** – The congregation in Smyrna received no rebuke from Jesus; only words of encouragement came from the Lord to these people. “I know your tribulation and your poverty,” empathized the Christ. There was much suffering for the gospel in

the first century which was not recorded in the scriptures, and much of the early suffering came at the hands of unregenerate Jews. Jesus was cognizant of what the saints in Smyrna had gone through, and He was conscious of their challenging financial situation as well. “But you are rich,” He states, indicating that their standing in the realm of “true riches” was in good order.

- **Blasphemy** – The congregation in Smyrna labored and endured for years, probably without any direct word from the Lord acknowledging His awareness of their situation. But here He asserts, “I know...the blasphemy by those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan” (Revelation 2:9). (How encouraging it is to know that the Lord is aware of what His children of faith are undergoing!) The “true Jew” became a Christian; the others “say they are Jews and are not.” These fake Jews were heaping slander and calumny upon the heads of the brethren in the church of Christ, trying to destroy their reputations and their influences in the community. That is why Jesus describes them as a “synagogue of Satan.”
- **Coming suffering** – “Do not fear what you are about to suffer,” the Lord comments, helping the brethren to focus forward (Revelation 2:10). The Lord is not going to take the suffering away. “Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days.” The word of God makes it plain that the saint will be strengthened to go through this experience, as the apostle Peter noted, “The God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you” (1 Peter 5:10). This period during which the brethren were to be “tested” was to be of comparatively short duration – “ten days.” That “ten days” might have been ten literal months or two years, but it by comparison is a short time. The testing was to be endured with joy!
- **Faithful ‘til death** – After talking about the upcoming suffering the brethren in Smyrna were about to experience, the Christ walking among the lampstands makes this statement, “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.” These words of encouragement to the first century brethren ring down through the rest of the age. Immersion, as a key example, is the beginning of a new life in Christ; it is not the end of a process. The new saint or prospective saint must be told — upfront — that he must be faithful ‘til death in order to receive that crown of life.

Jesus closes His exhortation to the Smyrna congregation: “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death” (Revelation 2:11). It is interesting that these messages “from the Spirit” at the beginning of the apocalypse tie in to salient points later on in the book. “The second death” is described in chapter twenty as “the lake of fire” (Revelation 20:14). No one who is honestly processing the messages from the word of God wants to end up in the lake of fire! No matter what external circumstances are being experienced, be faithful until death, and get that crown of life!!

**Be faithful ‘til
death, and get
that crown of
life!!**

JAY WILSON