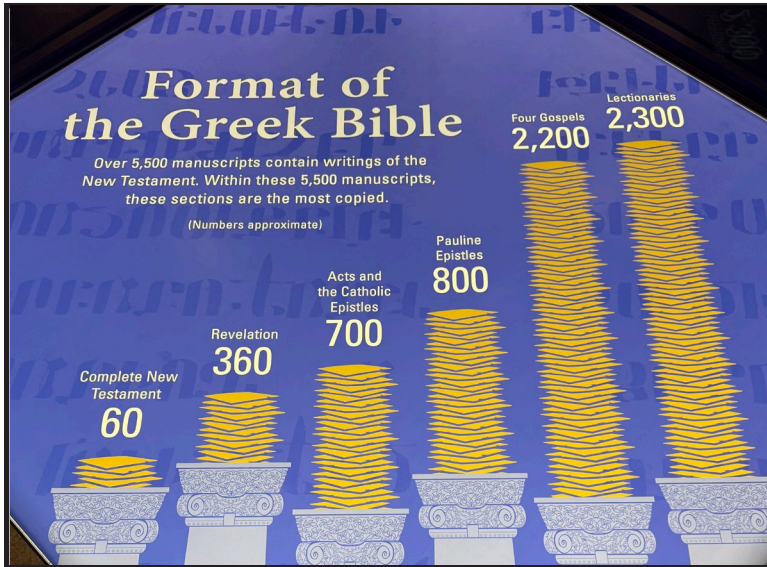


“So the three mighty men broke through the camp of the Philistines, and drew water from the well of Bethlehem which was by the gate, and took it and brought it to David.

**Nevertheless he would not drink it,
but poured it out to the LORD.”**

-- 2 Samuel 23:16



Graphic from the Bible Museum, Washington, D.C.
showing the breakdown of the 5500+ manuscripts
used to determine the wording of the New Testament

**“But we are not of those who shrink back
to destruction, but of those who have faith
to the preserving of the soul.”**

Hebrews 10:39

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

October 27, 2024

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

St'dship - Davis Ashley

L.S. - Su Nguyen

Preaching - Luke Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

*** GROUPS STUDY - PHILIPPIANS**

L.S. - Justin Shanahan

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Stan Zech

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - Brent Borelli

L.S. - Caleb Wilson

Preaching - Jay Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Class

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Jay Wilson

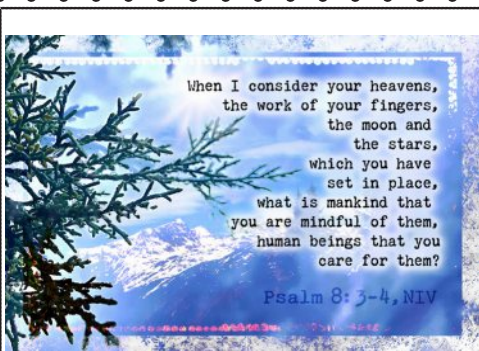
Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman

Nov. 24 - Fellowship dinner following assembly. Theme: "Thanksgiving"

Butte

Nov. 17 - Fellowship dinner - 6:30 pm before assembly



BOZEMAN -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Study on Hebrews

Luke Wilson

GREAT FALLS -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Jay Wilson

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bible Bowl - March 15, 2025

Ladies' Advance - May 1-3, 2025

Men's Peaks - July 24-26, 2025

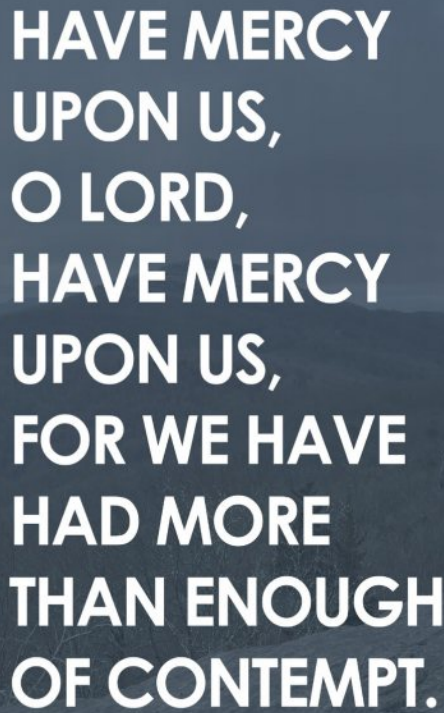
Family Camp - Aug. 29 - Sept. 1, 202

Great Falls

"Harvest Party" - Thurs. Oct. 31

at 5:30 pm at the church building

Nov. 3 - Fellowship dinner following assembly



HAVE MERCY
UPON US,
O LORD,
HAVE MERCY
UPON US,
FOR WE HAVE
HAD MORE
THAN ENOUGH
OF CONTEMPT.

PSALM 123:3, ESV

Question of the week:

On the second missionary journey Paul parted company with Barnabas because he did not want John Mark (author of the gospel account) to come with them. In the closing section of Paul's second letter to Timothy, what does he say about Mark?

Last week's question: God made it plain to Jeremiah and the people of Judah that He is a God who is not far off. What kind of God is He? *Answer: "a God who is near" (Jeremiah 23:23).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 62
Morning Assembly – 91
Evening Assembly – 59

Wednesday Night (10/23) – 59
Butte Lord's Day – 9
GF Lord's Day – 66,81 Wed. - 69



Reasonings from Revelation

To the Church in Sardis

“We must pay much closer attention to what we have heard,” exhorted the writer of Hebrews, “lest we drift away from it” (Hebrews 2:1). One of the dangerous pitfalls for saints is for them to be complacent in their faith; such complacency results in drifting unawares, and such drifting results in spiritual death. This was happening to the church in Sardis, the next on the clockwise circuit of Revelation. “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write,” again commands King Jesus. The Exalted One says that it is “He who has the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars” (Revelation 3:1). The “seven stars” are the messengers (or “angels”) who will read this message from Christ out loud to the congregations. It is interesting that the Lord describes Himself as the One who “has the seven Spirits of God”; He is the One directing the

Holy Spirit in these cases.

- **“I know your deeds”** – The Lord, who reads the hearts of men, confidently says, “I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead” (Revelation 3:1). These participants in the church at Sardis externally possessed the name “Christian,” as those belonging to Christ, but the analysis of Him who judges correctly is that they were spiritually dead.
- **“Wake up”** – These straying “brethren” had drifted away from the faith once delivered, and a spiritual slumber had therefore befallen them. “Wake up,” shouts the Christ, “and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die” (Revelation 3:2). The challenge from the Lord was for these from Sardis to start the path of increasing their faith and therefore their spiritual strength, and to shore up the bonds which tied them together as brethren. “I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God,” is another comment. It is not good to falter before the finish!
- **“Remember what you received”** – The scripture occasionally refers to “receiving the word” (1 Thessalonians 2:13). This “word,” the “apostles’ doctrine” was taught universally in the first century congregations, as in the case of Sardis. “Remember therefore what you have received and heard,” is Jesus’ exhortation, “and keep it, and repent” (Revelation 3:3). They had received and heard the correct teaching; they needed now to again put it into practice. “Repent!” says the Lord Jesus, echoing comments to the other congregations in Asia.
- **What if?** – What if the so-called saints in Sardis did not repent? “If therefore you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come upon you” (Revelation 3:3). One of themes in the thread of Jesus’ statements, whether in the gospel accounts or in this apocalypse, and referenced by the writers of the epistles, is that Jesus “will come like a thief” in the night. When the Master unexpectedly steps into the room and finds most of the workers slack or wrongly engaged, it will not be pleasant for them.
- **A few** – In spite of the downward vortex existing in the congregation at Sardis, all was not lost. “But you have a few people in Sardis,” applauds the Christ, “who have not soiled their garments” (Revelation 3:4). They had kept their focus on getting Christ’s work done and had not drifted into the prevalent idolatry and immorality. “They will walk with Me in white; for they are worthy.” The rewards are there for those who will sacrifice themselves for the sake of truth and the love of the Lord.

“He who overcomes shall thus be clothed in white garments,” and thus fitted to stand in the presence of the Holy One of Israel (Revelation 3:5). “I will not erase his name from the book of life,” which is a great promise from Jesus, but also an indicator for modern saints that a person’s name can be erased from that book. “I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels,” says the Christ, also pointing to the great reward for faithfully following Christ.

And the closing admonition: “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches” (Revelation 3:6).

**Wake up, and
strengthen the
things which
remain!**