"After this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field at Machpelah facing Mamre (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan." -- Genesis 23:19

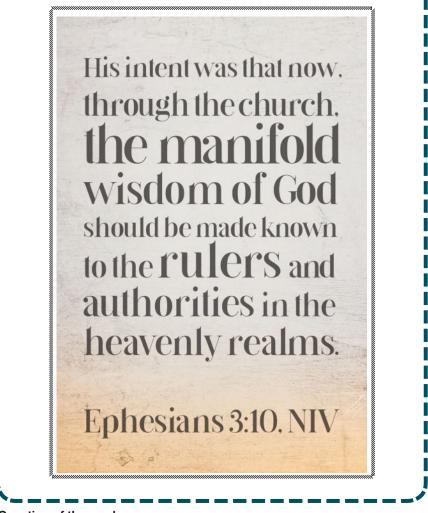


Lyris, Sylvia, Izzy, Liam, and Maverick enjoying some outdoor time in a fresh skiff of snow Bozeman Christian School an integral ministry of Christ's Church in Bozeman

"The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you." *Romans 16:20*





Question of the week:

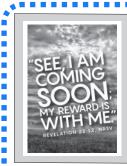
Finish the words of this verse from Hebrews: "Now the main point in what has been said is this..."

Last week's question: What book of the Bible begins with the words, "How lonely sits the city that once was full of people"? Answer: Lamentations (Lamentations 1:1)

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School — 80 Morning Assembly — 110 Evening Assembly — 50

Wednesday Night (11/6) – 52 Butte Lord's Day – 12 GF Lord's Day – 69,105 *Wed. - 51*



Reasonings from Revelation

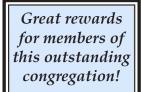
The Church at Philadelphia (cont.)

"Behold," cries the risen Christ in John's vision to the church in Philadelphia, "I have put before you an open door which no one can shut" (Revelation 3:8). This faithful congregation is encouraged to keep on spreading the message of salvation, found only in Jesus Christ, in the midst of opposition from the Jews (and soon from the Roman government). Jesus had opened that door, and the brethren were to charge forward through it, carrying the only message of hope and peace to be found on this planet. "You have kept the word of My perseverance," Jesus noted, and this congregation was therefore to be counted upon to make use of the open door.

Reminder – The Lord constantly reminds the churches that His second coming is imminent. "I am coming quickly," is His statement, generally as a warning but here as encouragement; "hold fast what you have, in order that no one take your crown" (Revelation 3:11). If a person knows that he has to hang on only a little longer in the midst of trial and persecution, that encourages him to keep on keeping on! The crown is mentioned, the reward for faithfulness also mentioned

- by Paul and James. A pillar - The church of the living God has numerous descriptive names attached to it, such as the bride of Christ or the body of Christ. It is also called the temple of God, as the only temple worthy of God's dwelling place. "He who overcomes," says the Christ, encouraging the brethren to be faithful and victorious, "I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God" (Revelation 3:12). This picture of being one of the supports for this most magnificent building is a true honor indeed. "And he will not go out from it anymore." Once the faithful saint breathes his last, his eternity is set, and his reward is secure.
- Names written If someone were to take a marker and write his name on an object, that would indicate his ownership of the object. Here the Lord notes, in regard to each

of the faithful saints at Philadelphia, that "I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God (the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God), and My new name." In thus being marked and tagged, the one who had been born from above and had maintained his faithfulness to the end was denoted as belonging to God. This directive is one which was done with joy, paralleling that thought that Jesus is not ashamed to call Christians His "brethren" (Hebrews 2:11). That he



regarded his citizenship in heaven during the years of his trials in his earthly sojourn is honored with the notation that he is marked with the name of the city of God. And, as a permanent resident of a new spiritual universe, he is marked with "a new name." The city - The book of Revelation is a tale of two cities, Jerusalem and Babylon; one honored and one eventually destroyed. "The new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven," is the church, or kingdom of God. To be a part of that kingdom, the saint must be "born from above"; that is, to be born of heaven (John 3:3). In thus being "born of water and Spirit," this new creation is no longer of earth but one whose dwelling is in *heaven* (John 3:5). But his faith must be tested, hence his trials while traveling through the wilderness of an earthly experience. But having been successful, he is a permanent part of that city. The eternal new Jerusalem, then, is thus spoken of as "coming down out of heaven."

What great rewards are in store for members of this outstanding congregation in Philadelphia! Their Jewish persecutors were to "come and bow down" at their feet, and they were to be inscribed with the greatest of all names. It is emphasized again, "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches" (Revelation 3:13).

JAY WILSON