"Or at another moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to build up or to plant it; if it does evil in My sight by not obeying My voice, then I will think better of the good with which I had promised to bless it." -- [Jeremiah's lesson from the potter's wheel] Jeremiah 18:9,10



Kids (mostly) from Bozeman Christian School wearing Blue and Gold to cheer on the Montana State University Bobcats football team winners of the Big Sky Conference and the No. 1 seed in the FCS playoffs

"I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness."

John 12:46

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

# **December 1, 2024**

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 Prayer med - Phil Sutton L.S. - Jim Mitchell Preaching - Luke Wilson L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -\* GROUPS STUDY - PHILIPPIANS L.S. - Charlie Brown GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Stan Zech 3:00 pm - classes 4:00 pm - Assembly St'dship - Zac Zech L.S. - Brent Borelli Preaching - Jay Wilson BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Class 8:15 pm - Assembly L.S. - Jay Wilson Preaching - Jay Wilson Bozeman

## **Butte**

**Dec. 15** - Fellowship dinner - 6:30 pm before assembly



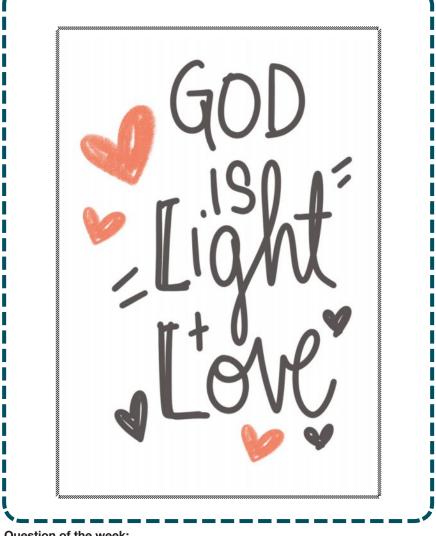
BOZEMAN -Wed. night, 7:00 pm: Study on Hebrews Luke Wilson

**GREAT FALLS -Wed. night**, 7:00 pm: Jay Wilson

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bible Bowl - March 15, 2025 College Camp - March 21-23, at Camp Utmost Ladies' Advance - May 1-3, 2025 at Fishtail Men's Peaks - July 24-26, 2025 Family Camp - Aug. 29 - Sept. 1, 202

#### **Great Falls**

**Dec. 1** - Fellowship dinner following assembly



### Question of the week:

What was the message in "the handwriting on the wall" recorded in Daniel chapter five?

Last week's question: According to the apostle Peter in the opening passage of his first epistle, what must happen before the prospective Christian can be "sprinkled" with Jesus' cleansing blood? Answer: He must "obey Jesus Christ" in immersion (1 Peter 1:2).

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 65	Wednesday Night (11/27) — 48
Morning Assembly – 121	Butte Lord's Day – 10
Evening Assembly – 45	GF Lord's Day – 61,73 Wed 43



Reasonings from Revelation

# **The Thousand Year Reign of Christ**

The first three chapters of the book of Revelation are comparatively straightforward, and chapters twenty-one and twenty-two about heaven are also. But chapters four through twenty are some of the most difficult passages in the entire word of God to process, and especially to try to process correctly without bias or with some hidden agenda in mind. The key to unlocking the pictures of the middle chapters is found in Revelation twenty, where the broad picture is most succinctly painted, and where the one-thousand-year reign of Christ — the "millennium" — is mentioned (and the only place where it is mentioned). And the key to Revelation twenty is found in verses five and six.

Here are those verses: "The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection.

Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years" (Revelation 20:5,6).

- **Priests of God** Under the terms of the new covenant, every Christian is a priest, "a royal priesthood" (1 Peter 2:9). Such priests minister in "a spiritual house," and "offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:5).
- Second death has no power The "second death" is also defined in this chapter: "the lake
  of fire" (Revelation 20:15). The question would be, "Does the second death have power
  over those who are Christians?" The answer is found in the words of Jesus, expressed
  during the years of His earthly sojourn: "Truly, Iruly, I say to you, he who hears My word,
  and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but
  has passed out of death into life" (John 5:24).
- Reigning with Christ at this present time Do Christians currently "reign with Him"? The apostle Paul pointed out that those who have come under the grace and mercy of
- Christ are described in these terms: He "raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:6). What is Christ sitting on now? A throne. Who is seated with Him on that throne? Every Christian. What kind of people sit on thrones? Those who reign!
- First resurrection Christians priests of God and of Christ, over whom the second death has no power, and currently reigning with Christ are those who must have undergone what the scripture calls "the

The "first resurrection" is referring to saints' immersions.

first resurrection." What could be called a "first resurrection" which saints of God have undergone, and which the lost have not? The answer comes in Paul's instruction to the Roman brethren: speaking of immersion into Christ, the inspired apostle stated that those becoming Christians are "buried with Christ through immersion into death," and as Christ was resurrected from the dead, so "we too" are raised to "walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). Thus the "first resurrection" is a spiritual resurrection connected with a person's immersion in Jesus' name!

The one thousand years – The first of those "first resurrections" occurred on the Day of Pentecost, AD 30, when 3000 souls were immersed in accordance with Peter and the apostles' preaching in obedience to Acts 2:38. The "thousand years" is a spiritual reference to the entire church age, the age when Christ reigns as King over the hearts of those who are true believers and truly obedient to the terms of His pardon. They indeed are "blessed and holy."

Jesus said that "an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs shall hear His [Jesus'] voice, and shall come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment" (John 5:28,29). This is the general resurrection of all who have ever lived, or alive at Jesus' coming. That is when "the rest of the dead come to life."

With these pieces of information in place, it is now possible to take the next steps in processing "the one-thousand-year" reign of Christ, and figure out what is true about "the millennium."

JAY WILSON