

**“I will praise the LORD while I live;
I will sing praises to my God
while I have my being.
Do not trust in princes,
In mortal man, in whom there is no salvation.”
-- Psalm 146:2,3**



Work of school kids
experiment in learning to live “a balanced life”
Bozeman Christian School

A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul. And when she and her household had been immersed, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

Acts 16:14,15

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

December 15, 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 - Tyson Jacobs

L.S. - Jason Shanahan

Preaching - Luke Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

*** GROUPS STUDY - PHILIPPIANS**

L.S. - Bob Edgar

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Bobo Womagno

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - Caleb Wilson

L.S. - Jared DuPaul

Preaching - Jay Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Class

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Jay Wilson

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman

DEC. 22 - POTLUCK FOLLOWING EVENING ASSEMBLY. DESSERTS SOCIAL AND BRING GAMES TO PLAY

Beginning Jan. 12 evening assembly

- Phil Sutton marriage series

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:

Annual "Jesus' Birth" play

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, 2025

Great Falls

Dec. 15 - Prayer and fasting



Question of the week:

What is it that God does without revealing His secret counsel to the prophets?

Last week's question: According to what is written in 2 John, what is "the antichrist"? *Answer: "Those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh" (2 John 1:7).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 65
Morning Assembly – 88
Evening Assembly – 47

Wednesday Night (12/11) – 47
Butte Lord's Day – 12
GF Lord's Day – 57,74 Wed. - 53



Reasonings from Revelation

The War in Heaven

The “war in heaven” and its matrix are worthy of more consideration. “Now the serpent,” is the record of Genesis, “was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made” (Genesis 3:1). As early as this was in the living oracles, it is not until the book of Revelation that we receive the official announcement of who this “serpent of old” is: “the devil and Satan” (Revelation 12:9). Satan, as the Adversary of God, is directly referenced only in Job, Zechariah, and 1 Chronicles in the Old Testament writings. Most of the information exposing him, his associated demons (the fallen angels or evil spirits who joined Satan), and his activities come from the new covenant writings.

When Ezekiel is prophesying concerning the king of Tyre, he apparently sees something more than just an earthly ruler. This being is described as having been “in Eden, the garden of God” and “the anointed cherub who covers” (Ezekiel 28:13,14). “You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created,” the prophet stated, “until unrighteousness was found in you” (Ezekiel 28:15). It fits the picture of Satan’s being a fallen angel, perhaps an archangel, and who sinned in heaven, leading other angels down the same path. Similarly, when Isaiah is prophesying against the king of Babylon, he also sees what appears to be more than an earthly king. “How you have fallen from heaven,” reads the scripture, “O star of the morning [“Lucifer,” KJV], son of the dawn” (Isaiah 14:12). What a claim emanates from this being: “I will ascend to heaven ... I will make myself like the Most High” (Isaiah 14:13,14). This comports with the expressed desire of “the tempter” to receive worship (which is reserved for God alone) when he showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, saying, “All these things I will give you, if you fall down and worship me” (Matthew 4:9).

What is given is a picture of a powerful angelic being who turned evil, and who desired to dislodge God from His rightful and glorious throne. Having failed to accomplish that in glory, he began to spread his rebellion to the sons of man, beginning with Eve and then Adam. Looking at the Old Testament writings through the eyes of the inspired New Testament authors, saints can see Satan’s hand in the idolatry and sinful rebellion evinced in the ancients. The gospel accounts show us Jesus’ consciousness of Satan and his goal to execute the Son of God. At the critical moment during Jesus’ last Passover, “Satan then entered into” Judas Iscariot, who then went out and gathered the soldiers and the mob who would arrest Jesus; Jesus sent him on his way, commenting, “What you do, do quickly” (John 13:27). Later, the Lord anticipating His arrest and crucifixion, told the apostles, “the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me” (John 14:30).

“The war in heaven” took place after these events. Satan clearly accused Job before God and had access to the courts of heaven. He is prophetically put forth as accusing Jesus (represented prophetically as “Joshua the high priest”) as He is standing before the throne in the vision as “clothed in filthy garments,” a picture of the sins of all mankind (Zechariah 3:1-4). After Michael and his angels defeated the dragon and his angels, “there was no longer a place found for them in heaven,” and “the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down” (Revelation 12:8,10). What he could do before the “war” he could do no longer. He was successful in working through Judas and the Sanhedrin in getting Jesus crucified.

But then came the resurrection of Christ! Matthew, in his gospel account, records how many bodies of Old Testament saints were raised, “and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they entered the holy city and appeared to many” (Matthew 27:52,53).

After appearing to selected witnesses for forty days following His resurrection, Jesus ascended to glory. His first action as High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek was to cleanse heaven. The writer of Hebrews notes it in these words: “When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high” (Hebrews 1:3). Heaven needed cleansing because that is where the devil and his angels sinned!

The “war in heaven” took place after Jesus’ crucifixion and prior to His ascension. The time of Jesus’ resurrection seems to be a logical point in time for that war to have taken place.

JAY WILSON

**The “war in heaven”
took place after the
crucifixion and prior
to the ascension!**