

**“A good name is to be more desired
than great wealth,
Favor is better than silver and gold.”
-- Proverbs 22:1**



Any parallel between this scene
and to the image of Dagon, the god of Ekron of the Philistines,
before the ark of the covenant?
“Signs of the times,” Belgrade, MT

**“And he said to me, “These are the ones who come
out of the great tribulation, and they have washed
their robes and made them white in the blood of
the Lamb.”**

Revelation 7:14

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

December 29, 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

Prayer med - Tyson Jacobs

L.S. - Steven Doty

Preaching - Luke Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

* **GROUPS STUDY - PHILIPPIANS**

L.S. - Brian Schweitzer

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Stan Zech

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - Nathan Zech

L.S. - Cody Kruck

Preaching - Jay Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Class

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - George Stone

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman

Beginning Jan. 12 evening assembly

- Phil Sutton marriage series

Butte

Jan. 19 - Fellowship dinner - 6:30
pm before assembly

But God
demonstrates

his own love

for us in this:

While we were
still sinners,

Christ died
FOR US.

Romans 5:8, NIV

BOZEMAN -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

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

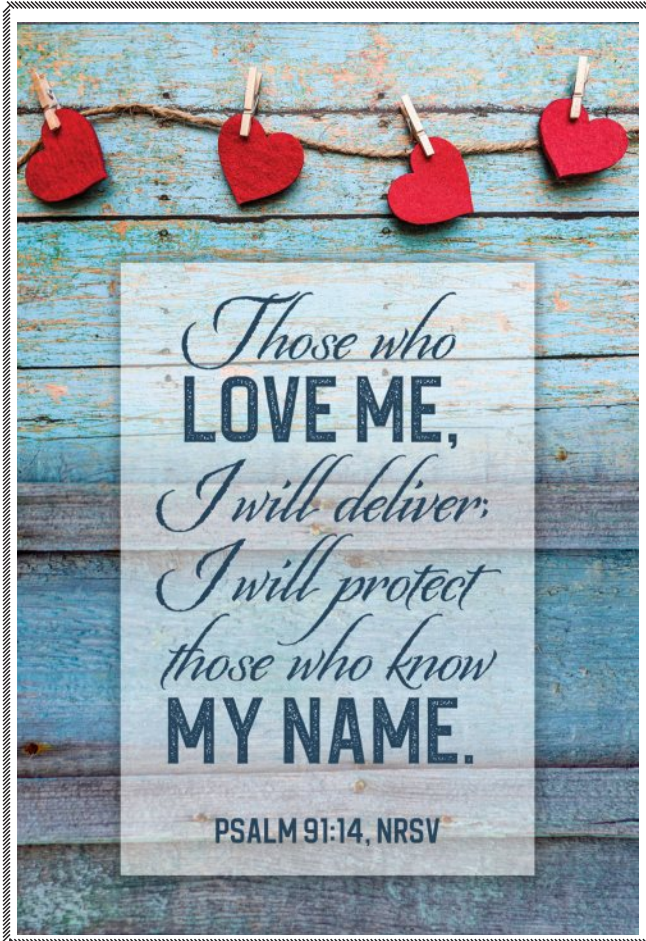
Ladies' Advance - May 1-3, 2025 at Fishtail

Men's Peaks - July 24-26, 2025

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

Great Falls

Jan. 5 - Fellowship dinner follow-
ing assembly. Theme: "finger foods
and appetizers"



Question of the week:

In Revelation 22, how is the God “who sent His angel to show His bond-servants the things which must shortly take place” described?

Last week’s question: What Old Testament prophet said that the righteous shall live by faith? *Answer: Habakkuk (Habakkuk 2:4).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 70
Morning Assembly – 102
Evening Assembly – 60

Wednesday Night (12/18) – 59
Butte Lord’s Day – 12
GF Lord’s Day – 63,85 Wed. - 46



Surrounding the Camp of the Saints

At the end of the “thousand years,” the vision of John records, Satan “must be released for a short time” (Revelation 20:3). The picture is of a curtain of darkness beginning to be pulled over a source of light; the church age, the “thousand years,” is coming to an end. Satan has been limited, but those restrictions are being moved out of the way. “And when the thousand years are completed,” the inspired record continues, “Satan will be released from his prison, and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore” (Revelation 20:7,8).

- **Deceiving the nations** – For the thousand years, the devil is described as not deceiving “the nations” (Revelation 20:3). Whatever roadblocks the prince of darkness might throw in the truth-seeker’s way, it is not enough to prevent him from coming to the “light” if he truly and persistently desires. Thus once he is immersed into the kingdom of Christ, he is free from the clutches of Satan. But as the church age comes to a close, Satan is “released from his prison.” And the efforts of the “nations,” the ethnic groups of the world (described as Gog and Magog, the most distant peoples scattered from the tower of Babel — see Genesis 10:2 and Ezekiel 38:1-8) to find the truth fade away.
- **“The war”** – The scene from Revelation shows the troops of Satan amassing for a great final battle, herein called “the war,” elsewhere called “Har-mageddon” or “Armageddon” (Revelation 16:16). “And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city...” (Revelation 20:9). The Old Testament “camp of the saints” was when the children of Israel came together in their God-ordained placement during their travels in the wilderness. The “beloved city” is Jerusalem, which became the capital and center for worship after David captured the city from the Jebusites and Solomon built the temple. Both of these are thus foreshadows of the church; one during the wanderings, and one for when the promised land was firmly in Israel’s control. The portrayal of these being surrounded is a description of when the church is spiritually surrounded; she can make no further progress in the spread of the gospel. [Author’s note: I used to wonder how that could possibly be, that there would be a time when no one would be seeking truth. When I see how the forces of the New World Order are working to set up the banking system to eliminate cash transactions, and how a system of “social credit scores” determining where a person could live and what he could eat or whether he could even buy or sell would put sufficient pressure on the world’s inhabitants so that, in order to survive, they would no longer seek the truth.]
- **Victory from heaven** – When the camp of the saints and the beloved city has been surrounded, “fire came down from heaven and devoured them” (Revelation 20:9). This is the end of planet earth, as the apostle Peter taught: “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up” (2 Peter 3:10). Also known as Judgment Day, “And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever” (Revelation 20:10).

“Fire came down from heaven and devoured them”

What has been established from this section of Revelation twenty is a picture of the overall cycle. The gospel makes progress but the devil finally gets his defenses in place, things get worse and worse, the spread of the gospel comes to a standstill, then comes the judgement of God. The key to understanding all of this is knowing that “the first resurrection” is the saint’s participation in the likeness of Jesus’ resurrection in immersion, that the “thousand years” is the church age, thus setting up the basis for understanding the other visions of Revelation.