AROUSE YOURSELF TO HELP ME, AND SEE!



Some of the "crowd" at the PA Family Camp Christ Church Everett, PA

"This figure of speech [about the shepherd entering by the door of the sheepfold] Jesus spoke to them, but they did not understand what those things were which He had been saying to them."

John 10:6

Getting the Lord's work done in 2021!!"

November 7, 2021

Christ's Church

Meeting at 30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman 2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls Holiday Inn Express — Butte

BOZEMAN - 8:45 - Gunnar Landsgaard 9:00 am - classes

10:00 am - Assembly

St'dship -

Prayer med. - John Odell

Preaching - Luke Wilson L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

L.S. - DanTuck

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Josiah Smith

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - Caleb Wilson

L.S. - Brent Borelli

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Butte - 7:30 pm - Classes

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - George Stone

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman -

Nov Fasting/Potluck Nov. 20,21. Potluck theme: Family Holiday

Favorites

Butte -

Nov. 21 -- Fellowship dinner, 6:30

pm



Bozeman -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm: Phil Sutton on 1 Peter

GREAT FALLS -**Wed. night**, 7:00 pm: "Expelled" (Ben Stein's intelligent

design expose`)

Great Falls

Nov. 7 - Fellowship dinner following assembly

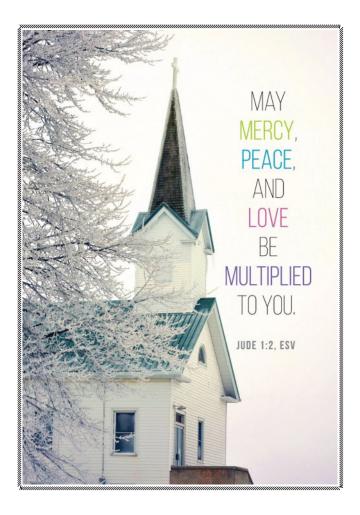
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

South Carolina Men's Retreat - Dec. 10-12

Bible Bowl - Mar. 12, 2022

Men's Peaks - July 21-23, 2022

Family Camp - Sept. 2-5, 2022



Question of the week:

When Ezekiel was told to make a model of Jerusalem under seige, and to lay on his left and right sides respectively, representing their years of iniquity, he has also told to prophecy. What was he to do with his arm?

Last week's question: What things are "pure" for those who are pure in heart? Answer: "All things" (Titus 1:15)...

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 101
Morning Assembly – 122
Evening Assembly – 68

You shall be:
My Wijnesses
even to the
remotest part
of the earth.

ALTINIA NASI

Acts Alive ...

Conspiracy in the Council

There are those who deny that conspiracies exist. There are those who maintain that the merest suggestion of the existence of conspiracies is a strong indication of paranoia. In contemporary society, the slightest hint that certain forces on the "left" might be engaged in conspiracy or that there might be a banking/industry cabal that is intent on "global governance" is a signal that the one who pointed in that direction is in need of "re-education."

But the student of the Bible is forced to recognize that conspiracies do exist. Jesus was not paranoid, but He knew the Jewish leadership had the intelligence, organization, money, and the drive to engage in a conspiracy to put Him to death. He, of

course, was correct; the record shows that the Jewish leaders were successful, on their part, of making certain that Jesus was executed. The apostle Peter spoke thusly concerning the Jewish leadership, preaching about "Jesus Christ, whom you crucified" (Acts 4:10). "You disowned Jesus in the presence of Pilate," he pointed out in an earlier message, "when he had decided to release Him. But you disowned the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, but put to death the Prince of life" (Acts 3:13-15).

Conspiracies, however, must work under cover of darkness. In the exposure of daylight, they have to look legitimate; but under the cover of darkness, they do their fiendish work. As Jesus told the mob that came to arrest Him in the Garden of Gethsemane, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest Me as against a robber? Every day I used to sit in the temple teaching and you did not seize me" (Luke 26:55). Thus the apostle Paul had to use everything he could in the Roman-constituted court system to keep a murderous conspiracy at bay, while this same conspiracy tried to use the legitimacy of the court system to maneuver and eliminate Paul.

Your curtain rises, and you find Paul seated before the chief priest and the Jewish High Council (the Sanhedrin). The session has been called by the Roman commander to find out "for certain" why Paul had been accused by the Jews. Paul, looking intently at the Council, says, "Brethren, I have lived my life with a perfectly good conscience before God up to this day" (Acts 23:1). Then you are surprised at the next event. You have seen

They conspired to ambush Paul as he left the "jail house"

how the Roman soldiers backed away from Paul, and how the commander was afraid when he found that Paul was a Roman citizen. The Romans did not want to touch Paul with that Roman citizenship. So you watch in awe as the High Priest, Ananias, in the presence of Roman officials, orders Paul to be struck on the mouth for his simple statement of having clear conscience. This is raw and brazen power and contempt.

Then you watch as Paul throws the whole assembly into violence and confusion by making this statement, "Brethren, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees; I am on trial for the hope and resurrection from the dead" (Acts 23:6). Things are so violent that the commander has to order his troops to come onto the assembly floor and rescue Paul, because he is afraid Paul will be torn to pieces by these august assizes of Israel. As an objective bystander, you can't help but ask the question, "Who's crazy here?"

Failing in the "legitimate" attempt to get Paul, forty men in cahoots with the Sanhedrin swore that they would neither eat nor drink until Paul was dead. They conspired to ambush Paul on the way from the "jailhouse" to the "courthouse." But the conspiracy was exposed by Paul's nephew, and Paul was safely escorted from the city by a guard of 200 foot soldiers, 70 horsemen, and 200 spearmen. The Romans clearly understood the Jewish hierarchy's ability to have "instruments of force" at their beck and call. The soldiers, horsemen, and spearmen together constituted quite a bodyguard for one man!

The conspiracy was not yet brushed aside, but Paul and the word were still marching on.

JAY WILSON