

**“Yet I will exult in the Lord, I
will rejoice in the God of my
salvation.”**

-- Habakkuk 3:18



Ezra Nichols, entertaining guests for lunch on his back porch
The Village
near Oklahoma City, OK

**“Jesus answered, ‘You say correctly that
I am a King. For this I have been born,
and for this I have come into the world,
to testify to the truth.’ ”**

John 18:37

"Follow through in 2022!!"

July 31, 2022

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 – Mike Kover

L.S. - Charlie Brown

Preaching - Luke Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

***DANIEL**

L.S. - Brian Schweitzer

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Josiah Smith

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - Brad Smith

L.S. - Steve Durnan

Preaching - Jay Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Classes

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Jay Wilson

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman

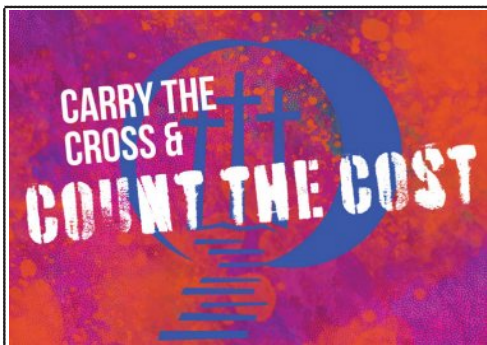
July 30,31 - special prayer for evangelism

July 31 - Bring salads,etc. "Grillin' " burgers and brats following assembly

Aug. 6 – Young Adult Fellowship, 6:00 pm at Nick Jacobs' residence (More info, call Andrew)

Butte

Aug. 21 - Fellowship dinner 6:30 pm



BOZEMAN -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Epistle of Titus

Phil Sutton

GREAT FALLS -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Jay Wilson – "The Descent of Saul"

Great Falls

Fellowship dinner following assembly
August 7

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Family Camp - Sept. 2-5-Theme: "The Way"

Ladies' Advance - April 13-15, 2023, Hampton Inn, Great Falls



Question of the week:

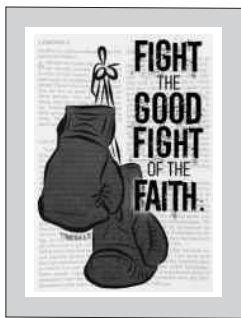
What king in Jerusalem received a letter from Elijah the prophet saying that, because he had caused Judah to go deeper into idolatry and had killed his own brothers, he would be suffer a sickness that would cause his bowels to come out.

Last week's question: What was the apostle Paul's perspective about the possibility of preaching the gospel in Rome? Answer: he was eager (Romans 1:15).

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 101
Morning Assembly – 129
Evening Assembly – 81

Wednesday Night (7/27) – 71
Butte Lord's Day – 14
GF Lord's Day – 79,99 Wed. - 55



The Epistles to the Evangelists

The Coming “Apostasy”

How wonderful it would have been to have been an apostle of Jesus Christ! It would have been awesome to have been a witness to the things Jesus did and said during the years of His earthly sojourn. It would have been so exciting to have the special revelation from the Holy Spirit as He made clear what happened with Jesus in glory, how He was exalted to the Father’s “right hand as a Prince and a Savior” (Acts 5:31). But what also would have been intensely interesting and all-consuming for the apostles would have been for them to see the church of the living God come into existence, and for them to shepherd it through its early years. Many of the early spiritual battles were concerned with the influence of the Judaizers, who attempted to force the new covenant “wine” back into the “wineskin” of the old covenant. Then came the attempts to “turn the grace of God into licentiousness” (Jude 1:4). Working through false teachers, Satan tried to turn the doctrine of the church to “law”; failing that, he tried to turn the church to “lawlessness.” The apostles, particularly the apostle John, lived long enough on earth to see those battles progress. The apostles, inspired by the Holy Spirit, had an idea what the future held, and warned the churches of the first century of what was coming. This included the apostle Paul.

- **The Spirit explicitly says** – The manner in which the apostle brings this matter to the attention of Timothy is interesting and significant. “But the Spirit explicitly says,” expounds the apostle, “that in later times some will fall away from the faith...” (1 Timothy 4:1). This should cause Timothy (and anyone else who reads this epistle) to sit up and take notice! When it is pointed out that the Holy Spirit *explicitly, emphatically* says something, no one should miss the point.
- **What is going to happen** – All Christians—those alive at the time Paul writes this letter, and to all future Christians—are to be aware that major work is being done to destroy the original church and the original gospel. The Holy Spirit states that “in later times some will *fall away* from the faith.” Another word for this is *apostasy*, coming from the Greek *apo* [away] and *stasis* [static or base point]. This is not going to be an occasional individual departing from commitment to Christ; this is going to be a massive, major scale falling away from the “faith once delivered.” How disheartening, in a way, it would have been for the apostle Paul to write about the future of the movement, to which he so diligently and at such cost gave himself, to have to note that most would depart from the original faith and embrace a twisted form.
- **Description of future movement** – A couple of salient points of the coming apostasy are expressed in terms of “men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods” (1 Timothy 4:3). Moderns have the advantage of being able to look back at “church” history and see that this is talking about the development of what is called “Catholicism.” It is no secret that the Catholic perversion began forbidding marriage to the “clergy,” and that certain foods were not permitted on certain days.
- **Who did it?** – History in general is replete with the accounts of men (and sometimes women) of ambition for position, perks, and power. As the early men of ambition began to set up *the bishop* over the *elders*, then the structure was such that it was advantageous for such men to engage in a power struggle. Satan and his minions had their opportunity, as these spiritual perverts were “paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.”

It is a strong and continual warning for all congregations, that the Deceiver works “by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron” (1 Timothy 4:2). They may look like “holy men” and position themselves in highly visible “spiritual” situations, but underneath the veneer they are ambitious and wicked men! All generations, beware!

JAY WILSON

*The Deceiver
works “by means
of the hypocrisy
of liars.”*