

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Silence

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray For: Wayne and Cathy Ezell, Doris Fikes, Peggy Beebe, Ed Maxwell is not feeling well.

Prayers Answered: Danesa's leg in doing much better.

Traveling/Working: Slope workers,

Outreach 2018: Our outreach program is under way. Volunteer to help! We knocked on 51 doors Thursday afternoon and made 21 personal contacts! The seed is planted, God will give us the increase.

Men's Business Meeting: There will be a men's business meeting on September 9, agenda items are due by September 2 to Ed.

Radio Program: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program, Sundays at 9am, on 99.7 FM.

Today's Scripture: "But when the Pharisees had heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together. Then one of them, *which was a lawyer*, asked *him a question*, tempting him, and saying, Master, which *is* the great commandment in the law? **Matthew 22:34-36 (KJV)**

Today's Wisdom: "A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;" **Ecclesiastes 3:7 (KJV)**

Attendance Last Sunday: 88/57 Record: 96

CONTACT INFORMATION

ELDERS:

Ed Maxwell (907) 373-5583 ed@churchofchristwasilla.com

Hans Nicholson (907) 230-2969 hnichs@gmail.com

DEACONS:

Joe Murdock (907) 715-0089 montana2189@hotmail.com

Wayne Ezell (907) 414-0613 nytman09@yahoo.com

Phillip Kelly (907) 632-1118 affordablehydroseeding@hotmail.com

EVANGELIST

Bill Beebe (907) 841-9261 bill@churchofchristwasilla.com

August 26th, 2018 BULLETIN for the



God's Plan of Salvation

- HearRomans 10:17
- BelieveMark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
- Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
- Confess OurRomans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
- Be Baptized..... Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
- Arise & Walk in Newness of Life.....Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

—Romans 1:16 KJV

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:

Bible Classes: 10AM

AM Worship: 11AM

PM Worship: 6PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study: 7PM

OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. 3PM-7PM

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

2061 N. Merciful Circle

Wasilla, AK 99654

(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

When Silence Is Eloquent

On that fateful night before his death, Jesus and his disciples had adjourned to the garden called Gethsemane, a place where the Lord had frequently communed with his little band of men (cf. Jn. 18:2). Judas, the traitor, surmising the Lord's whereabouts, led a group of soldiers and temple police to the secluded spot. With torches and lanterns (and in the light of a full Passover moon), the bloodthirsty mob made their way up the slope of Mt. Olivet in search of the Son of God, With weapons they came seeking the Prince of Peace. As they sought to arrest the Lord, the following incident occurred, as recorded by the apostle John.

"Simon Peter therefore having a sword drew it, and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear" (18:10).

We are informed that the servant's name was Malchus. The Master rebuked his impetuous disciple, warning him that *"all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword"* (Matt. 26:52), further purposing to drink the cup of death which had been appointed by his heavenly Father (Jn. 18:11).

Interrogated by Pilate

With this dramatic event in mind, let us go forward in time several hours and observe the Lord's appearance before Pilate, the Roman governor. Pilate interrogated Jesus: *"Are you the king of the Jews?"* (18:33) That was not a question that could be answered with a simple *"yes"* or *"no."* No, he was not a political king who had come to establish earthly Jewish supremacy (a lesson some religionists could well learn today), but yes, he was the long awaited king of the Jewish scriptures.

The Savior thus answered the governor's question in the following way. *"My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence"* (36). Christ argued that his kingdom is not of a political nature, as evidenced by the fact that his followers would not fight to prevent his arrest by the Jews.

It is at this point, however, that a very intriguing question arises. Why did not Pilate stop this defense of Jesus by calling attention to an obvious *"flaw"* in his argument. He might have said, *"Hold it a second. It is well known that one of (7) your disciples — Simon Peter by name — attempted to fight in your defense only hours ago. In fact, he cut off the ear of Malchus. The incident was witnessed, and as a matter of fact, one of the victim's kinsman is in the vicinity right now."* (cf. 18: 26). Would not that have been a powerful rebuttal?

By: Wayne Jackson

Yes indeed — except for one gigantic problem. Christ might well have responded: *"Now why don't you bring Malchus himself into this court? Let him testify. Let us examine his wounded head."*

Had the gentleman been brought into court what an awkward situation that would have created for the Jewish authorities and indeed for Pilate himself, for, as one learns by an examination of Luke's record, the amputation of the ear was not the end of the incident. Luke, the physician, ever interested in investigating medical matters, declared that Jesus *"touched his ear, and healed him"* (22:51). Now we know why this event was never mentioned. The last thing these men wanted at this point was to attract additional attention to the miracle working deeds of the Son of God. And in this respect, their silence becomes all the more eloquent. The incident was simply too well known and too powerful not to use against Christ had it not been for the fact that his healing miracle demolished it! This case affords, therefore, very strong indirect evidence for one of the miracles of Jesus; and it is a type of evidence which no gospel writer could ever have contrived.

The miracles of our Lord bear up under the most rigorous investigation. He is the Christ, the Savior of all who obey him (Heb. 5:8-9).

