#### Schedule of Events

Nothing scheduled.



## Think on These Things

#### Philippians 4:8

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

Hebrews 13:7 (KJV)

## **Our Family News**

Pray for / Jeanie Boatright (recovery from surgery), Emily Hatley, Steve and Abby St Claire (in Juneau working with the Alaska Legislature), Danesa, Billie Tabor (Danesa's mothers friend), Jean (Danesa's, mother), Deba Betti, Elizabet (training in Fairbanks), Johnathan Crawford, Peggy Beebe (severe pain and upcoming shoulder replacement surgery), Ed Maxwell (80th birthday). Each other.

## **Today's Scripture**

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us. For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you: Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-9 (KJV)

## **Wisdom for Today**

They also that render evil for good are mine adversaries; because I follow the thing that good is.

Psalm 38:20 (KJV)

AM Sermon / George Jensen PM Sermon / George Jensen

#### **Evangelist**

George Jensen (907) 203–5059 george@churchofchristwasilla.com January 28, 2024 Bulletin for the



## **God's Plan of Salvation**

Hear Romans 10:17

Believe Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1–6

Repent Acts 2:38, Il Corinthians 7:10

Confess Romans 10:9–10, Matt 10:32–33

Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16

Remain Faithful Matt 24:13, Rev 2:10, James 1:12

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

### 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

Radio Programs on KMBQ 99.7 "Searching the Scriptures"

Our weekly radio program on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM.

## **Meeting Times**

#### Sunday

Bible Classes 10AM AM Worship 11AM PM Worship 5PM

#### Wednesday

Bible Study **7PM** 

Office Hours

Call or check website

# "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

# The Fifth Gospel

#### By Bill Beebe

We all know that there are four gospels included in the Holy Bible: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. From these we are taught the most important lessons of life, lessons given to us by the Holy Spirit. These lessons prepare us for our life on earth and, more importantly, for life in eternity. According to Wayne Jackson in his article "Examining the Four Gospels" Mathew a Jew, although from a profession despised by the Jews, wrote his gospel primarily for Jews. His gospel serves to purposes; 1) it proves that Jesus is the Messiah promised through the Old Testament, and 2) it served as encouragement to the Jewish Christians. Mark, inspired by the Holy Spirit and although being a Jew, wrote his gospel generally for the Gentiles. Luke was the only gospel writer

who was not a Jew. His gospel was written for a mostly non-Jewish audience, but he traced the genealogy of Jesus back through time to God. John wrote his gospel for an eclectic audience. John was the disciple that is described as the one that Jesus loved. His gospel was written to document the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Through time there have been other documents written that claim to be inspired gospels. For example, the "gospel of Thomas" that purportedly documents the life of Jesus prior to the beginning of His ministry. It contains some unusual claims about Jesus as He grew up. Others include "the gospel of Judas", and "the gospel of Mary Madgeline". All these, supposedly, gospels were rejected by the early church and are considered as whimsical, and uninspired documents that are the product of men's imaginations. Because of this, the church recognizes only the four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. So what do I mean by the title of this article "The Fifth Gospel"?

The answer is in the life each of us live. Growing up in the church, I often heard that saying "You are the only Bible that some people will ever read!". Of course, this refers to the fact that how we live our lives will be an example to the people we meet. The example can either be positive and present our love for God, or negative and demonstrate our rejection of God although we claim to be Christians. In John 13:12-17 (KJV) Jesus used His actions to give the disciples an example of how they should live their lives. "So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." Peter

also tells us that Jesus is an example that we should mimic in our lives. I Peter 2:21 (KJV) "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:" Paul told Timothy that he should be an example to others. I Timothy 4:12 (KJV) "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

The writer of Hebrews told us that there can be evil examples, those we should not follow; Hebrews 4:11 (KJV) "Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief." And finally Jude writes about the example of Sodom and Gomorrha. Jude 1:7 (KJV) "Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, sutfering the vengeance of eternal fire."

This fifth gospel is not something written down by inspired writers in the first decades following the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Rather it is the example each of us presents to friends, relatives, and acquaintances as we live our lives. So, like Timothy, will you be an example to others in how you live in words, in conversation, in love, in spirit, in faith, and in purity? Or will you set the example presented by the citizens of Sodom and Gomorrha as they pursued sin and because of this suffered the vengeance of eternal fire? The fifth gospel will likely be the only gospel that some will read. They will watch closely how you act and how you make use of the time that God grants you. Which will you write in the life you live, a gospel of unerring belief and confidence in the salvation purchased by Jesus with His own blood? Or one of unbelief, spending your time here in sin although claiming to be a Christian? God gave us freedom of choice, therefore only you can determine which your gospel will be. Decide wisely, not only does your soul depend on it, but the souls of those that watch you will depend on it as well.

