



# Church of Christ at Beech Grove

meeting at Beechgrove, TN since 1875

❖ Visitors Always Welcome ❖

Highway 41 near I-24 exit 97

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<http://kennethlorin.com/BeechGroveChurch.html>

<http://kennethlorin.com/WeeklyBulletin.html>

Kenneth L. Thomas, minister - 615-890-6959

## Cumberland Caverns Youth Rally

On Friday 14 teenagers and adults went to Cumberland Caverns for a youth rally. The theme was "Creation", with Dr. Brad Harrub of Focus Press being the keynote speaker. Reported attendance was 465. Messages were presented that showed the contradictions regarding "science falsely-so-called" and true scientific facts. Brother Harrub clearly showed that ardent evolutionists have ignored or tried to hide discoveries that have contradicted their biases about evolution, the age of the earth, the origin of the universe, and the view that man never saw dinosaurs. The day was designed to strengthen faith and confidence in the biblical record.

Besides the lessons, singing of spiritual songs, and fellowship with people from many places, we also got to see part of the normal cave tour. (So many more had come than had expected that the tours had to be



staggered in time so that the groups could hear the tour guides. While some were seeing the cave, others heard some other good messages illustrated with pictures and outlines in powerpoint.

Thanks to Ernie and Becky Green and Debbie Walden for going along. The teens were so well behaved that they needed little supervision. Thanks to all of them for being so cooperative and agreeable. Teens who attended were Heather and TJ Waldron and their cousin Steven Grimes (from Sharpesville), Clark and Hutch Green, Brooke Carter, Carrie Haley, Leia Hudson, Harley Walker and her friend Kaitlin Chase.

Due to battery failure I did not get many good pictures in the cave, but the ones on this page were taken during lunchtime.

Ken Thomas



### Sunday Schedule

<b>Bible Classes</b>	<b>10 AM</b>
<b>Worship</b>	<b>11 AM</b>
<b>Worship</b>	<b>6 PM</b>
<b>Wednesday: Bible Classes</b>	<b>7 PM</b>

### Mission Works and Evangelism:

House to House/ Heart to Heart  
 Restoration Radio  
 Jim Waldron  
 Manuelito Children's Home



# Bible Search

by Kenneth L. Thomas

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## Questions for week of January 4

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1. OT - What were the meek to seek in order to escape God's wrath?
  2. OT - What source of light is compared to a life that "goes out"?
  3. Old Testament - Who compared his past life to a time when God lighted his path with a candle?
  4. The secrets of men always seem to come to light. What teacher illustrated that idea using the common practice of placing a light in an elevated place rather than down low?
  5. With what shall those who practice hypocrisy be surprised?
  6. What six characteristics describe the spirit of the Lord as it stayed upon a descendant of Jesse?
  7. Who asked that his killers not be charged with what they were doing wrong?
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## Answers for week of December 28

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1. Where are confessing sins and covering sins contrasted?

**Answer: (Prov 28:13) He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.**

This is the only place in the Bible where "confess" and "cover" are mentioned in the Bible. The word "contrast" means compare with a view to seeing distinctions or differences. It makes a difference how one deals with sin. If we try to cover (hide, excuse, deny) our sins, we are not going to prosper. This has nothing to do with the fact our sins are covered (hidden) by the blood of Christ, but a human effort to avoid detection. On the other hand, it is not the person who confesses (admits) sin who gains the mercy of God, but the person who forsakes sin. While this is an Old Testament passage, the principle remains true today. There is no reward for those who use the "spin doctor" technique to excuse their sins. We must humble ourselves to realize and admit our sins, and forsake them.

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2. Who prayed and confessed on behalf of his people when he realized (by reading books) that their God appointed captivity was almost over?

**Answer: Daniel.** You will notice that Daniel had learned from Jeremiah's writing that the desolation of Jerusalem would take 70 years. From this he concluded that the 70 years were up and it was time for the captivity to end. See the scriptures below that are the background for my conclusion, and the passages in the "books" that Daniel probably had read. It is a lot of material, but when you read this, in context, you will see the awesome truth that God really expects his people to be obedient, and they pay when they refuse. Daniel 9:1 In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; 2 In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. 3 And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: 4 And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; 5 We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments: 6 Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.

BACKGROUND. . .the Jews were supposed to let their land rest every 7 years. God had promised to provide abundant crops to sustain them in the year of the "sabbath" (rest) for the land. Obviously some 490 years passed while the Jews ignored the principle of letting the land rest. So God saw to it that the land "caught up" on its rest, for 70 years is 1/7 of 490. (I am not even trying to calculate the Jubilee year that came every 50 years, an extra "sabbath" for the land after seven cycles of seven years had passed.)

Lev 25:3-4 - Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; 4 But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the LORD: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard. Lev 25:20-21-And if ye shall say, What shall we eat the seventh year? behold, we shall not sow, nor gather in our increase: 21 Then I will command my blessing upon you in the sixth year, and it shall bring forth fruit for three years.

Lev 26:33-35 And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste. 34 Then shall the land enjoy her sabbaths, as long as it lieth desolate, and ye be in your enemies' land; even then shall the land rest, and enjoy her sabbaths. 35 As long as it lieth desolate it shall rest; because it did not rest in your sabbaths, when ye dwelt upon it.

Lev 26:43-45 - The land also shall be left of them, and shall enjoy her sabbaths, while she lieth desolate without them: and they shall accept of the punishment of their iniquity: because, even because they despised my judgments, and because their soul abhorred my statutes. 44 And yet for all that, when they be in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, neither will I abhor them, to destroy them utterly, and to break my covenant with them: for I am the LORD their God. 45 But I will for their sakes remember the covenant of their ancestors, whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the heathen, that I might be their God: I am the LORD.

Jer 25:9-13 - Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations. 10 Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the candle. 11 And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. 12 And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the LORD, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations. 13 And I will bring upon that land all my words which I have pronounced against it, even all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah hath prophesied against all the nations.

Jer 29:10-13 - For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. 11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. 12 Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. 13 And ye shall

seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Ezra 1:1-2 - Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, 2 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The LORD God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah.

**3.** Who baptized people when they confessed their sins?

**Answer: John the Baptist**

Matthew 3:1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand . . . 5 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, 6 And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.

Mark 1:1-5 - The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; 2 As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. 3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. 4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. 5 And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.

The presumption for baptism as practiced in the New Testament church was that all who came to be baptized were doing so as sinners desiring forgiveness. Thus their confession of sins was implied. But the actual confession made with their mouth was a confession of faith in Jesus as "Lord" and/or faith in Christ as the Son of God (See Matthew 10:32, Acts 8:36-38, and Romans 10:9,10 for more information.)

**4.** Who was afraid of being put out of the synagogue if they confessed what Christ had done for their son?

**Answer: The parents of the young blind man that Jesus healed**

John 9: 1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? 3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. . . 18 But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and

received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. 19 And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see? 20 His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: 21 But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself. 22 These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue.

5. Who believed in Christ but would not admit it because they knew it would cause them to lose favor with men?

**Answer: Some of the chief rulers, John 12:42-43**

Jn. 12:42 Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess [him], lest they should be put out of the synagogue: 43 For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

6. Find at least two verses that teach that everyone will eventually confess the lordship of Jesus.

**Answers: Rom. 14:10** But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. 11 For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.

**Philippians 2:10** That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Similar language in the Old Testament

**Isa 45:23** I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

7. (From the Old Testament)- In a picturesque passage, idolaters are compared to that which will vanish quickly, including morning vapor and condensation, chimney smoke, and waste materials from threshing blown away. Find it.

**Answer: All four ideas are found in Hosea 13**

Hosea 13:1 - When Ephraim spake trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he offended in Baal, he died. 2 And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves. 3 Therefore they shall be as the morning cloud and as the early dew that passeth away, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor, and as the smoke out of the chimney.

Comment: The rise and fall of the tribe of Ephraim is said to have been related to their attitude toward God and Baal. In Hosea's day idolatry was rampant, and the idolaters' destruction was eminent.

Welcome, visitors

## Beech Grove News, Prayer Requests

Other prayer needs: William Miller (NHC); Frances Cartright (Nancy Harvey's mother) at Boulevard Terrace. Laura Singleton (now at home); Melissa Dickerson still has some problems with wounds not healing. Becky Green had a food poisoning experience last weekend but is well now. Jessie Pearl Green had a foot injury but was back at church Wednesday night. Joe Green suffered a fire loss on his sawmill and equipment last week. Diane Harvey has been sick with upper respiratory problems. Charlene Turnbo, frequent visitor, fell recently and injured her ankles. Judy Thomas had an MRI and is still having serious pain.

Food Pantry :Please continue a sustained effort to bring items. If you know of a pressing need for food (including your own) please let it be known.

## Bible Bowl is today at Woodbury.

Best wishes to our teenagers.

## Attendance and Contribution for the Week

Dec 28 BS 16 MW 26 EW 24 Wed 19 Cont. \$662  
 Dec 21 BS 19 MW 37 EW15 Wed 14 Cont. \$778  
 Dec 14 BS 22 MW 23 EW 25 Wed 17 Cont. \$535  
 Dec 7 (Not recorded)  
 Nov30 BS 18 MW 33 EW23 Wed 10 Cont \$598  
 Nov23 BS 22 MW 29 EW 21 Wed 13 Cont. \$710

Assignments	January 4	January11
Song leader (SS)	Tim Waldron	Wayne Gannon
Announcements	Joe Green	Junior Conner
Songleader-Worship	Wayne Gannon	Tim Waldron
Scripture reading	Daniel Green	T J Waldron
Opening prayer	Lee Rose	Ken Thomas
Table service (center)	Tim Waldron	Joe Green
(center)	Steve Miller	Daniel Green
(outside)	Junior Conner	T J Waldron
(outside)	T J Waldron	Junior Conner
Closing Prayer	James Mason	Steve Miller