



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>

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Can You See in the Dark?

Richard Mansel, Allenhurst, GA

“Alone in the dark,” is one of the most frightening situations that we can face. We abhor the darkness that gathers around us like a cloak. Harmless objects assume a malevolent face when obscured in darkness. Our vision in the dark is untrustworthy because of these distortions and inherent distrust. Hence, we cannot trust our eyes in the absence of light.

If we find ourselves in the woods at night, we will run with all of our might towards a distant light. Darkness terrifies most of us and we resist it with all that we have.

What is fascinating is that we often do the exact opposite with spiritual darkness. We run away from physical darkness while running to spiritual darkness (Proverbs 1:16; Romans 3:10).

Scripture is very clear that light and darkness are excellent ways to understand sin and righteousness. “God is light and in Him is no darkness at all” (1 John 1:5, NKJV). Jesus calls himself the “light of the world” (John 8:12) that is constantly misunderstood by those in the darkness (John 1:4-5; 1 Thessalonians 5:5).

Yet, most still embrace the darkness, the abode of Satan, where God has no place.

The righteous walk in the brightness of a sunny day while, “The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble” (Proverbs 4:18-19).

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Sunday Schedule

Bible Classes	10 AM
Worship	11 AM
Worship	6 PM
Wednesday: Bible Classes	7 PM

Mission Works and Evangelism:

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



Bible Search

by Kenneth L. Thomas

Questions for week of March 8

1. What island was the home of people who were known for their characteristic lack of truthfulness?
2. What writer of scripture asserted that another person's writing of scripture had things in it that were difficult to understand?
3. In scripture we read of decisions made by lottery. What was the prize in a lottery conducted by military men?
4. What is the means by which elders received a "good report"?
5. What prophet was deserted by his companions and left to see a fearful vision by himself?
6. Find and list all the nations listed in Daniel.
7. Who gave a name to another woman's child in honor of a women's wrestling match which she (the namegiver) felt that she had won?

Answers for week of March 1

1. Where is a passage in which a man complains to his mother about the conflict in his life and the fact that men cursed him despite his lack of participating in loans for interest?

Answer: Jeremiah 15:10

Jer 15:1-10 "Then said the LORD unto **me**, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people: cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth. 2 And it shall come to pass, if they say unto thee, Whither shall we go forth? then thou shalt tell them, Thus saith the LORD; Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for the captivity, to the captivity. 3 And I will appoint over them four kinds, saith the LORD: the sword to slay, and the dogs to tear, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the earth, to devour and destroy. 4 And I will cause them to be removed into all kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah king of Judah, for that which he did in Jerusalem. 5 For who shall have pity upon thee, O Jerusalem? or who shall bemoan thee? or who shall go aside to ask how thou doest? 6 Thou hast forsaken me, saith the LORD, thou art gone backward: therefore will I stretch out my hand against thee, and destroy thee; I am weary with repenting. 7 And I will fan them with a fan in the gates

of the land; I will bereave them of children, I will destroy my people, since they return not from their ways. 8 Their widows are increased to me above the sand of the seas: I have brought upon them against the mother of the young men a spoiler at noonday: I have caused him to fall upon it suddenly, and terrors upon the city. 9 She that hath borne seven languisheth: she hath given up the ghost; her sun is gone down while it was yet day: she hath been ashamed and confounded: and the residue of them will I deliver to the sword before their enemies, saith the LORD. 10 **Woe is me, my mother, that thou hast borne me a man of strife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have neither lent on usury, nor men have lent to me on usury; yet every one of them doth curse me."**

2. What kind of "stir" is caused by grievous words?

Answer: An angry stir Proverbs 15:1

A soft answer turneth away wrath: but **grievous words stir up anger.**

There are other passages that describe words used to "stir up" people, but this is the only one I know that uses the expression "grievous" regarding the "stir"

3. Whose "habitation" will be a dry, "uninhabited" land that is salty?

Answer: The man that trusts in man. Notice the contrasting blessing in verse 7.

Jeremiah 17:1 The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond: it is graven upon the table of their heart, and upon the horns of your altars; 2 Whilst their children remember their altars and their groves by the green trees upon the high hills. 3 O my mountain in the field, I will give thy substance and all thy treasures to the spoil, and thy high places for sin, throughout all thy borders. 4 And thou, even thyself, shalt discontinue from thine heritage that I gave thee; and I will cause thee to serve thine enemies in the land which thou knowest not: for ye have kindled a fire in mine anger, which shall burn for ever. 5 Thus saith the LORD; **Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm,** and whose heart departeth from the LORD. 6 For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but **shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited.** 7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

Also: Disobedient Israel: (Deu 29:21-29)

4. What factor enabled a student's understanding to surpass that of all his teachers and the men of old?

Answer: He had meditated on the testimony of GOD and kept HIS precepts (vss. 99 and 100)

Psa 119:97 O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day. 98 Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me. 99 **I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.** 100 **I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.** 101 I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word. 102 I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me. 103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! 104 Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. 105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. 106 I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments.

Randal observed: In context he has outdone THREE groups:(He was also wiser than his enemies, in addition to his excellent understanding beyond the teachers and the 'ancients'.

5. When do the wicked perambulate on every side?

Answer: When the vilest men are exalted. We are surrounded by evil in times when evil men have been put in high position. Vile men should not be put on a pedestal. Sadly some "heroes" are vile in many ways. (Psa 12:8) **"The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted."**

6. Give a reference in both Old and New Testaments that describe death as sleep.

Answers:

Old Testament:

Deuteronomy 31:16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, **thou shalt sleep with thy fathers;** and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them.

Job 7:21 And why dost thou not pardon my transgression, and take away mine iniquity? for **now shall I sleep in the dust;** and thou shalt seek me in the morning, but I shall not be.

Psa 13:3 "Consider and hear me, O LORD my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I **sleep the sleep of death;**"

Daniel 12:2 And many of **them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,** some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

New Testament:

Mat 9:24 "He said unto them, Give place: for the maid is **not dead, but sleepeth.** And they laughed him to scorn."

Mark 5:39 "And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is

not dead, but sleepeth."

Luke 8:52 "And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is **not dead, but sleepeth.**"

John 11:11-14. These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our **friend Lazarus sleepeth;** but I go, that I may awake him out of **sleep.** 12. Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. 13. Howbeit **Jesus spake of his death:** but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. 14. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, **Lazarus is dead.**

Acts 7:60. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, **he fell asleep.**

Acts 13:36 For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, **fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers,** and saw corruption:

Eph 5:14 "Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that **sleepest, and arise from the dead,** and Christ shall give thee light."

1 Corinthians 15:6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but **some are fallen asleep.** .

. 18 - "Then also those who have **fallen asleep** in Christ have perished. . . .20 - "But now **Christ is risen from the dead,** and has become the **firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**"

15:51 - "Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all **sleep,** but we shall all be changed--"

7. Who ran into the tabernacle and grasped the altar in a vain attempt to avoid execution?

Answer: Joab. - (1 Ki 2:28-35) "Then tidings came to Joab: for Joab had turned after Adonijah, though he turned not after Absalom. And **Joab fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD, and caught hold on the horns of the altar.** 29 And it was told king Solomon that Joab was fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD; and, behold, he is by the altar. Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, Go, fall upon him. 30 And Benaiah came to the tabernacle of the LORD, and said unto him, Thus saith the king, Come forth. And he said, Nay; but I will die here. And Benaiah brought the king word again, saying, Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me. 31 And the king said unto him, Do as he hath said, and fall upon him, and bury him; that thou mayest take away the innocent blood, which Joab shed, from me, and from the house of my father. 32 And the LORD shall return his blood upon his own head, who fell upon two men more righteous and better than he, and slew them with the sword, my father David not knowing thereof, to wit, Abner the son of Ner, captain of the host of Israel, and Amasa the son

of Jether, captain of the host of Judah. 33 Their blood shall therefore return upon the head of Joab, and upon the head of his seed for ever: but upon David, and upon his seed, and upon his house, and upon his throne, shall there be peace for ever from the LORD. 34 So **Benaiah the son of Jehoiada went up, and fell upon him, and slew him:** and he was buried in his own house in the wilderness. 35 And the king put Benaiah the son of Jehoiada in his room over the host: and Zadok the priest did the king put in the room of Abiathar."

Note: Adonijah also caught hold of the altar, but not in vain. He was spared!

1 Kings 1:50-53

Welcome, visitors

Heavy snowfall covered the area last Sunday morning, and services were cancelled. Thankfully a few of us were able to assemble Sunday evening.

Beech Grove News, Prayer Requests

Shut in - Laura Singleton is in Manchester Health Care. William Miller is in NHC.

Sympathy - Wayne Gannon's brother-in-law, Vanice Black, was buried Wednesday afternoon.

Food Pantry - Please continue a sustained effort to bring items. If you know of a pressing need for food please let it be known.

Bible Bowl - Our final contest this season was postponed due to snow. It is planned for Morrison at 2:00 PM today.

Thanks to Wayne Gannon for teaching in my absence on Wednesday nights. I am the guest teacher for this month at Green Hill in Mt. Juliet. - Ken Thomas

Attendance and Contribution for the Week

Mo	Wk	BS	MW	EW	Wed	Cont
Mar	1	NA	NA	15		\$393
Feb	22	19	30	24	18	\$602
Feb	15	17	26	24	17	\$625
Feb	8	14	30	18	16	\$847

(. . . See in the Dark, from front page)

The light entered the world but mankind "loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil" (John 3:19). The words "were" and "evil" denote continual action./1 He continues, "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed" (John 3:20). The word "evil" in 3:19 is a different word than the one in 3:20. The latter word refers to "worthlessness."/2

The behavior of those in darkness has no redeeming qualities, in the eyes of God. They cannot see the good around them because of the darkness in their eyes. A roach doesn't know the benefits of cleanliness because it is unnatural to them. Likewise, a person immersed in darkness has so much goodness in the world that they cannot see.

Spiritual darkness obscures hope, peace, unity, faith, love and truth. We become blind to all that is great without the light of the Lord. Evil becomes our default position, leaving the world immeasurably bleak and hopeless.

We must let the Lord's light bathe our lives in grace and mercy and open our hearts to endless possibilities for joy or we will never see the beauty of God!

1/ Marvin Vincent, Vincent's Word Studies in the New Testament (Peabody: Hendrikson Publishers, n.d.), 2:101
2/ Ibid.

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We are expecting a guest, Jeff Foster, from Manuelito Navajo Children's Home this morning. He will be reporting on that work which we help support.

Assignments	March 8	March 15
Song leader (SS)	Wayne Gannon	Tim Waldron
Announcements	Junior Conner	Joe Green
Songleader-Worship	Tim Waldron	Wayne Gannon
Scripture reading	Daniel Green	T J Waldron
Opening prayer	Wayne Gannon	Steve Miller
Table service (center)	Joe Green	Steve Miller
(center)	Daniel Green	Daniel Green
(outside)	T J Waldron	Junior Conner
(outside)	Tim Waldron	Ernie Green
Closing Prayer	Lee Rose	James Mason