



# 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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## Please Pass the Salt

by Mike Benson

My wife asked me recently what I wanted for supper. I told her I'd enjoy a big pot of home-cooked pinto beans. She quickly reminded me that we were under strict orders to cut back on our sodium intake. "The doctor says high blood pressure and salt aren't close friends." "They don't have to be close friends," I replied, "just friendly acquaintances!" Cutting back is one thing; cutting out is impossible -- especially when you are a fan of pinto beans.

Salt was not considered a detriment in ancient cultures. On the contrary, it was regarded as a highly prized commodity. The Greeks called it theon, which means "divine." Often, Roman soldiers were paid in salt (that which they received as wages was referred to as a salarium, from which we get our English word "salary"), and it was from that practice that the expression "not worth his salt" came into usage. In some societies salt was even more precious than gold. That's something to mull over when you realize that the current market price for an ounce of precious yellow metal is just over \$1,000. Remember that next winter when you are slinging that 25-pound bag of rock salt over your icy driveway.

Salt was deemed valuable for at least three reasons: First, it was a PRESERVATIVE. Without refrigeration, meat was especially subject to spoilage. Salt "cured" animal flesh and kept it from going bad. Second, it was a SEASONING. Historians tell us that the diet in and around ancient Palestine tended to be bland. Salt permeated food and gave it a distinctive, pleasant flavor. Third, it was a CLEANSING AGENT. Wounds were bathed in salt water in order to sterilize them. Infection was kept in check by the high salinity brine solution and helped promote healing.

(Continued inside, page 3)

### 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

(Wording is based on KJV)  
by Kenneth L. Thomas

## Questions for week of April 6

1. What beast of burden saw a barrier blocking its way and left its original path?
2. Subjection to the law of God is not a characteristic of the \_\_\_\_\_ mind.
3. What kind of person is the target of the evil bowmen (arrow-shooters)?
4. What kind of plants are described as growing on the top of a house?
5. What person described some difficulties that accompany being greatly wise and knowledgeable?
6. What disgusting act of worship was practiced by the people of Sepharvaim?
7. After the removal of the nation Israel into Assyrian territory, other people were placed in Israel's former territory. What did the Lord do to vex those new inhabitants of the land?

## Answers for week of March 30

1. Who that died after the flood had the longest life so far as the Bible records?  
Answer: Noah - Genesis 9:28 - 29  
8 After the flood Noah lived 350 years. Altogether, Noah lived 950 years, and then he died.  
Genesis 11  
Two years after the flood, when Shem was 100 years old, he became the father of Arphaxad. And after he became the father of Arphaxad, Shem lived 500 years and had other sons and daughters.  
There seems to be no record in the Bible as to how long Ham and Japheth lived. Methuselah would have been 369 years old when Noah was born.  
Genesis 7:6 Noah was six hundred years old when the flood waters came on the earth.

Genesis 5:27 Altogether, Methuselah lived 969 years, and then he died.

Methuselah must have died just before or during the flood.

2. Whose life had the second greatest longevity as recorded in the bible?

**Answer: Jared, at the age of 962, just 7 years less than Methuselah.**

Genesis 5:20 - And all the days of Jared were nine hundred sixty and two years: and he died.

Genesis 5:27 And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years: and he died.

Some answered "Noah", but he was a youngster at 950 years. Adam only lived to 930. ONLY!

3. What animal cannot be depended on to keep someone safe, and though it is strong, cannot serve as a deliverer?

**Answer: The horse**

Jim Puckett wrote: A lot of animals will fit that description: Hippopotamus, crocodile, whale, lion, tiger, etc. But you want a horse. (Psa 33:17 KJV) "An horse is a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver any by his great strength."

I will accept the unicorn as well:

(Job 39:9-12) "Will the unicorn be willing to serve thee, or abide by thy crib? {10} Canst thou bind the unicorn with his band in the furrow? or will he harrow the valleys after thee? {11} Wilt thou trust him, because his strength is great? or wilt thou leave thy labour to him? {12} Wilt thou believe him, that he will bring home thy seed, and gather it into thy barn?"

4. Who spoke of having an ear that had the ability both to hear and understand?

**Answer: Job** - Job 13:1 - Lo, mine eye hath seen all this, mine ear hath heard and understood it.

5. Who was accused of being guilty of a

nation's becoming perverted, interfering with taxation and claiming royalty?

**Answer: Jesus**

(Luke 23:1-2) "And the whole multitude of them arose, and led him unto Pilate. {2} And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this fellow **perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King.**"

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6. By what can love NOT be drowned?

**Answer: Floods**

Song Of Solomon 8:7 - Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned.

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**“Salt” (continued from front page)**

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Because we can purchase salt in such large quantities for relatively little money today, we often lose sight of what Jesus was teaching in the Sermon on the Mount. We probably don't give much thought to Bible doctrine when we are buying that navy blue, cylindrical box of Mortons at the local IGA. But when the Lord declared, "You are the salt of the earth..." (Matthew 5:13a), He was underscoring our great value and influence in the world. Faithful children of God have a preserving effect in a world of rampant spiritual decay (Genesis 18:23ff; Proverbs 14:34; 2 Timothy 3:13); they hinder and retard moral decline. Christians add a divine tang or flavor to the local community in which they live. Once salt is added to a food, it permeates and changes it. (Just a smidgen of salt can enhance a big pot of pinto beans)! Then too, believers serve as a kind of virtuous antiseptic towards those wounded by the effects of sin.

On the other hand, Christians who wear their holy designation on "Sunday only" have no life-testimony -- they neither preserve, season, nor heal. That's what Jesus meant when he said, "...But if the salt loses its flavor ... it is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and

trampled underfoot..." (v. 13b). In New Testament times, salt was collected from crystals around the Dead Sea. These formations were full of impurities, and since the actual salt was more soluble than the impurities themselves, the rain often washed out the sodium chloride, which made what was left worthless since it literally lost its saltiness. This residual material was simply thrown into the yard to destroy the fertility of the soil (Deuteronomy 29:23; Judges 9:45; Psalm 107:34) and harden the path to the house.

George Barna, the church statistician, highlighted this Bible truth-principle when he wrote, "...The average Christian in the average church is almost indistinguishable from the rest of society. The fundamental moral and ethical difference that Christ can make in how we live is missing. When our teens claim to be saved, get pregnant and do drugs at the same rate as the general teenage population -- when the marriages of Christians end in divorce at the same rate as the rest of society -- when Christians cheat in business, or lie, steal, and cheat on their spouses at the same statistical level as those who say they are not Christians -- something is horribly wrong ( Romans 2:19ff)." I hear both Jesus and Barna saying the same thing. That which makes Christians commendable and worthy of respect ( James 1:27; Philipians 2:15) can be leached out of their hearts by the constant flow of the world's values.

Minerals without salt were worthless. Pinto beans without salt are not fit to eat. Likewise, Christians without salt -- to borrow from old Kentucky lingo -- "ain't no count."

Would you please pass the salt? Oh yeah, and the cornbread too!

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# FORGETTING OUR PURPOSE

John Gipson

Most people have a more rounded education than mine. They read the comics - something I haven't done since Dick Tracy, Dagwood and Blondie, Smilin' Jack, and Li'l Abner. I guess I just got out of the habit.

However, a few years ago Allen Isbell sent me a comic strip entitled Kudzu by Doug Mariette. Since that time I can proudly say that I read one comic strip each day.

A recent offering shows the preacher, holding his Bible, standing in front of the church house door. A rather large and aggressive lady has him cornered, and she is giving him what for. "What - No tanning salon?! . . . No juice bar! . . . No food court! . . . No fitness center! . . . No jacuzzi! . . . No sauna! . . . No skating rink! - AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A HOUSE OF WORSHIP!"

This brought to mind a time when Jesus went in the temple and found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, along with the money-changer at their business. You can imagine the noise, odor, and general commotion. The atmosphere must have been somewhat like a county fair, or carnival. Was Jesus pleased? Hardly! He cleaned them out - lock, stock and barrel.

God's intention was that the house which was called by His name should "be called a house of prayer for all peoples" (Isa. 56:7). But in time the original purpose had been largely forgotten. God's house had become a house of trade and occupied by a den of robbers.

And if we are not careful, we will repeat the same mistake and forget what God's house (the church) is all about today.

*John Gipson's article was in The Messenger, Pennington Bend Church of Christ, Nashville, TN*

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## Prayer Needs and Requests

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Jackie Hafer is still fighting her infection and having dialysis. She is expecting to be transferred to the Manchester hospital Monday.

Our sympathy to Junior Conner in the death of his brother-in-law, Kenneth Gilley this week. The funeral was Wednesday at McMinnville.

Arlin Mesick and Jerry Mesick, Jessie Pearl Green's brothers, continue to need prayer due to their cancer. Remember William Miller at NHC and Laura Singleton at home.

Continue to pray for those who are in mission fields. Also pray for peace in the world and wisdom for those in authority. Pray for the poor and suffering.

For the record:	03/09	03/16	03/23	03/30
Bible Study	15	9	14	10
AM Worship	27	17	35	21
PM Worship	22	26	25	27
Wed. Bible Study	18	13	9	23
Contribution	\$458	\$433	\$760	\$615

Assignments	April 6	April 13
Song leader (SS)	Ken Thomas	Wayne Gannon
Announcements	Junior Conner	Ken Thomas
Songleader-Worship	Wayne Gannon	Tim Waldron
Scripture reading	Andy Miller	Daniel Green
Opening prayer	James Mason	Wayne Gannon
Table service (center)	Steve Miller	Joe Green
(center)	Andy Miller	Nick Graham
(outside)	Daniel Green	Daniel Green
(outside)	T J Waldron	Junior Conner
Closing Prayer	Lee Rose	James Mason
<i>If you cannot serve, please contact Junior Conner</i>		