



# Beech Grove Church of Christ

meeting at Beech Grove, TN since 1875

❖ Visitors Always Welcome ❖

Highway 41 near I-24 exit 97

 P.O. Box 85 -- Beech Grove, TN 37018

Phone 931-394-2305

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

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

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

## **Burning in Our Hearts: Tyndale's Bible was valuable enough to die for. Is your Bible important enough to read?**

The boisterous crowd fell silent. They had gathered in the summer of 1536 to witness an execution, a man burned at the stake. He was just a little over forty years old, an Oxford scholar, and a felon facing the death penalty. So what had he done?

All eyes were on the victim. Flames snapped and crackled as the wood at his feet began to be consumed. Soon the man, too, would perish in its flames. So what was his crime?

William Tyndale (1494-1536) had a simple ambition. He wanted to make the Bible available to the common man. You would have thought it was an innocent enough ambition, too, but powerful forces did not want just anybody to read the Bible. So what was at stake?

At stake was the power and position of many clerics and churches whose practice differed too radically from scripture. A plain reading of God's word would reveal that these shepherds of the people had led their flocks astray. A measure of the clerics' fear can be seen in the ruthless way they sought his life.

When one cleric objected to Tyndale's proposals, he stood and declared: "If God spares my life, before many years pass, I will make it possible for the boy behind the plow to know more scripture than you do."

Such undiplomatic language did not endear him to the powerful and the entrenched. He had to flee to Holland, where he began to translate the Bible into common, plainspoken English. Copies of this precious work began to seep back into England, and the authorities, incensed, set a bounty on his head. In 1536 Tyndale was betrayed, and fell into the hands of the Church authorities. At his trial he was convicted with the death penalty. As the crowd watched with the fascination of horror, the great man had something to say. His last words were a prayer: "Lord," his voice rang all around the courtyard, "Open the King of England's eyes." (Continued on back)

### **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

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## Questions for week of August 12, 2007

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1. Among Matthew, Mark, and Luke, where is the greatest emphasis and mention of the Holy Ghost (Spirit)? (One of them has more references than both of the others.)
2. What verb describes destructive action taken by a king, bears, and a devil. (The word rhymes with "bear" and is not found in all versions. Remember that I start with the KJV to get my questions.)
3. Who proclaimed that he was innocent of covering up his sin in the way that Adam did?
4. Who describes himself as having an open mouth and a big heart?
5. What kind of woman has (and keeps) honor?
6. What is the inheritance of a troubler of his own household?
7. What city is pictured as a nursing mother whose babies are characterized as having satisfaction and delight?

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## Answers for week of August 5, 2007

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This week's questions will relate to the characteristics of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

1. Which of the above named books of the New Testament could be best characterized by its greater emphasis on prayer?

**Answer: Luke.** Jesus prayed at major events of His life, He taught often on prayer, and Luke mentions praying by others.

The word pray\* appears 32 times in 30 verses. In addition, I believe the words of Jesus from the cross directed to the Father constitute prayers.

(Luke 1:10) And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense.

(Luke 1:13) But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

(Luke 2:37) And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.

(Luke 3:21) Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened,

(Luke 5:3) And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.

(Luke 5:16) And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed.

(Luke 5:33) And they said unto him, Why do the disciples of John fast often, and make prayers, and likewise the disciples of the Pharisees; but thine eat and drink?

(Luke 6:12) And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

(Luke 6:28) Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.

(Luke 9:18) And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am?

(Luke 9:28-29) And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. 29 And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistening.

(Luke 10:2) Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.

(Luke 11:1-2) And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples. 2 And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

(Luke 18:1) And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

(Luke 18:10-11) Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

(Luke 19:46) Saying unto them, It is written, My house is the house of prayer: but ye have made it a den of thieves.

(Luke 20:47) Which devour widows' houses, and for a show make long prayers: the same shall receive greater damnation.

(Luke 21:36) Watch ye therefore, and pray always,

that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

(Luke 22:32) But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

(Luke 22:40-41) And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation. 41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed,

(Luke 22:44-46) And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. 45 And when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping for sorrow, 46 And said unto them, Why sleep ye? rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation.

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2. Which of the above named books of the New Testament does not contain an account of Christ's baptism, his temptation, or transfiguration?

**Answer: John**

Baptism of Jesus is in Mt. 3, Mk. 1, and Luke 3. (John mentions that Jesus came to him (Jn. 1:29) and bore record that Jesus was the son of God (vs. 34) but does not record His baptism.)

Transfiguration is in Mt. 17, Mk. 9, and Luke 9.

Temptation in the wilderness Mt. 4, Mk. 1, Luke 4.

3. Which of the four contain the most parables of Jesus, and which chapter in that book has the most parables?

Answer: I think Tom Austin of OK defined the difficulty with this question when he wrote: "Tough question, especially without defining exactly which are, and are not, parables. But...John recorded very few parables, which puts him immediately out of the running. Likewise Mark said little about them, so that leaves us Matthew and Luke, who are just about even--again depending on whether or not certain passages that read like parables are or are not parables."

Ken Thomas says, "**There are 15 parables in Matthew, and 10 that are unique to Matthew, with chapter 13 having 7.**" That was my original answer when I wrote the question. But, as I learned from several people who sent answers, Luke has more than that, even without counting the story of the rich man and Lazarus, so **the true answer to the question seems to be Luke with 18 or 19 and there are 3 parables in chapters 14 and 15.** Mark has only 4 and John no actual parables.

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4. Some have indicated that writing in which sentences begin with "And" are often full of continuous action. Also the word "straightway" refers to immediate or quick action. Which of the four gospel accounts (MT,MK, LK, JN) uses the word "And" to begin most of its chapters (as well as several other sentences)? (It also has 42 references to "straightway.")

**Answer: Mark** is the intended answer. I made a mistake in wording the question, as the whole Bible has only 42 references to straightway. Mark has 19 of these. I did a little more research and found that In the KJV the word "and" occurs 921 times in the 572 verses of John for an average usage of 1.610 times per verse ;1552 time in 810 verses of Matthew for an average of 1.916 times per verse; 1910 times in Luke's 951 verses for a frequency of 2.008 times per verse. But in Mark there are 1286 uses in 594 verses for an average of 2.165 uses per verse.

Instances of "And" as first word of the chapter:

Matt 8 of 28 (28.6%); Mark 12 of 16 (75%); Luke 13 of 24 (54.2%); John 2 of 21 (9.5%)

Number of instances of "straightway" in the text

Matt 8; Mark 19; Luke 4; John 1

Only 4 chapters in Mark (1, 7, 8, and 14) don't begin with "And"

References to "straightway" 1:10,18,20,&21; 2:2; 3:6; 5:29,42; 6:25,45,54; 7:35; 8:10; 9:15,20&24; 11:3; 14:45 and 15:1.

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5. Which of the four gospel accounts (MT,MK, LK, JN) refers to the poor most often? (The word "poor" will not always be found, but the circumstances of the individuals will be revealed by other information.)

**Answer: Luke**

Some examples are: Luke 2:24 (sacrifice of the poor), 3:11 person with no coat; 4:18 preach to poor; 6:17-49 do good and help others (esp. v. 20); 7:41 debtors; 8:43 woman spent all on physicians; 14:13&21 call the poor to your feast, 15:14-16; prodigal was in want and hungry; 16:20,22 beggar Lazarus; 18:22 distribute to the poor;19:8 Zacchaeus' promise; 21:2-3 poor widow and 2 mites.

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6. Which account is the only one to have an account of the bribing of the guards that had been at the tomb of Jesus?

**Answer : Matthew**

(Mat 28:11-15) "Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and showed unto the chief priests all the things that were done. 12 And when they were assembled with the elders, and

had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, 13 Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept. 14 And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you. 15 So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day."

7. Which account is the only one that does NOT have an explicit reference to Jesus as the light to those who were of Gentile background? (Give references to this in the other three)

**Answer: Mark** is missing the reference.

Mat 4:16 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

Luk 2:32 A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

John 1:9 "That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world."

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

	August 12	August 19
<b>Song leader (SS)</b>	Tim Waldron	Wayne Green
<b>Announcements</b>	Joe Green	Junior Conner
<b>Songleader-Worship</b>	Wayne Gannon	Tim Waldron
<b>Scripture reading</b>	Andy Miller	Daniel Green
<b>Opening prayer</b>	Lee Rose	James Mason
<b>Table service (center)</b>	Tim Waldron	Joe Green
<b>(center)</b>	Ken Thomas	Nick Graham
<b>(outside)</b>	Cole Gordon	T J Waldron
<b>(outside)</b>	Junior Conner	Daniel Green
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	James Mason	Lee Rose

### **Burning in our Hearts, cont.**

Do me a favor, if you would please. Take out your copy of the Bible, and hold it for a moment. Do you own anything more precious? There was a time when only the rich could own a Bible, so expensive was its manufacture. That changed with the invention of printing by Johann Gutenberg in 1456. Of course the first thing he printed was a German Bible.

Tyndale's English Bible was so dangerous, so "revolutionary" that he lost his life for publishing it. But it should not escape our notice that it was so precious that thousands of Englishmen risked their lives in order to obtain it, and read its truths.

Have we taken something for granted?

You can pick up a Bible at "Wally World" for less than five dollars. And you won't have to smuggle it home. The biggest danger you face by owning a Bible is ... a changed life!

Tyndale's Bible was valuable enough to die for. Is your Bible important enough to read? Tyndale's Bible was important enough to smuggle across the gray English Channel. Is it important enough for you to obey? Tyndale's Bible was responsible for lifting the spirits of thousands of Englishmen – carpenters, lawyers, doctors and, yes, the boy behind the plow. Is it important enough for you to live? No fire burned hotter, the day Tyndale died, than the fire and power of God's word. Will it burn in your heart too?

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32).

By Stan Mitchell, 2007

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### **Gospel Meeting: August 12-15 - Curlee, Charles Williams, 7 PM**

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Please remind Ken of any news that needs to be reported.

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Prayer requests:

Pray for those in Bangladesh, Nepal and India who have suffered terrible flooding due to recent monsoons. Millions have been displaced with no where to go, thousands have died, and many more are being infected with water-borne diseases. In some places there is no way to bury the dead, and corpses are floating downstream.

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Pray for the sick and injured of our congregation

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Pray for the spread of the gospel throughout the world. Millions are dying without the gospel and slipping into "eternity's night".