



# 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

## "Nobody Wears Shoes"

by Ken Thomas

According to an old story, two men were assigned to sell shoes to a remote backward people. As they sent in their reports, one man explained his lack of success with a complaint and this excuse: "Nobody wears shoes here." The other man reported his success in glowing terms, and then said, "This is the best territory I ever had! Nobody wore shoes before I came, but now they do!"

Why the difference? The potential customers were greatly alike, but the salesman had differing attitudes. Rather than lamenting that no one will buy genuine Christianity, let us see the great void that needs to be filled in people's lives, and take the gospel to a lost and dying world. Love will find a way to reach the lost.

I thank God for brethren who are searching for ways to reach the lost, and I am thankful that we have such great opportunities here. There are people who are searching. Who will take the time to teach them, to encourage their interest, or even to give them a ride to services?

Jesus said, "Look on the fields; for they are white already for harvest."

### 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 September 30, 2007

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1. What will keep the word of God from bearing fruit in our lives?
2. What was the name of a well that was named in anticipation of fruitful living?
3. Who angrily referred to a child as fruit of the womb?
4. Who called Jesus the fruit of the womb?
5. What will keep the word of God from bearing fruit in our lives?
6. What two kings met at Damascus, where the king of Judah saw an altar and sent plans for one to be built like it?
7. What king of Israel was put into prison by an Assyrian king as punishment for conspiring with Egypt?

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## Answers for week of September 23, 2007

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1. Where is an aggressive sheep which picks on the weaker sheep described, as a picture of the oppression of God's people and their need for being saved by God?

**Answer: Ezekiel 34:17-31**, esp. vs. 21. God identifies these sheep as representing men, and himself as the owner of the sheep in verses 22 and 31. The context proves that the livestock (cattle) are of the sheep kind, and represent strong men attacking the weak.

17 And as for you, O my flock, thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I judge between cattle and cattle, between the rams and the he goats. 18 Seemeth it a small thing unto you to have eaten up the good pasture, but ye must tread down with your feet the residue of your pastures? and to have drunk of the deep waters, but ye must foul the residue with your feet? 19 And as for my flock, they eat that which ye have trodden with your feet; and they drink that which ye have fouled with your feet. 20 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD unto them; Behold, I, even I, will judge between the fat cattle and between the lean cattle. 21 **Because ye have thrust with side and with shoulder, and pushed all the diseased with your horns, till ye have scattered them abroad;** 22 **Therefore will I save my flock**, and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between cattle and cattle. 23 And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd. 24 And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it. 25 And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods. 26 And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing. 27 And the

tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them. 28 And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid. 29 And I will raise up for them a plant of renown, and they shall be no more consumed with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen any more. **30 Thus shall they know that I the LORD their God am with them, and that they, even the house of Israel, are my people, saith the Lord GOD. 31 And ye my flock, the flock of my pasture, are men, and I am your God, saith the Lord GOD.**

2. One book of the Bible has several references to the 13th day of a month as a day in which a decree of death to the Jews was written and sealed. The decree was to be carried out on the 13th of another month. The Jews were able to defend themselves against the death decree, and established a celebration of their victory. Give the days of the month when the celebration was held, and the name of the celebration. (Give reference for both the dates and name of celebration)

**Answer: Although the "thirteenth day" is prominent, the days of celebration were on Adar 14 and 15. This corresponds generally to Feb. - Mar. on our calendar. The festival was called Purim.**

Though the King of Persia, Ahasuerus, could not rescind his decree that the Jews could be attacked, he made another decree (because of Esther's intervention) to give the Jews the right to defend themselves. Therefore they were able to claim a victory and save their own lives.

References to "thirteenth day" in the book follow:

(Est 3:12-13) **"Then were the king's scribes called on the thirteenth day of the first month**, and there was written according to all that Haman had commanded unto the king's lieutenants, and to the governors that were over every province, and to the rulers of every people of every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language; in the name of king Ahasuerus was it written, and sealed with the king's ring. {13} And the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, **to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, even upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar**, and to take the spoil of them for a prey."

(Est 8:12) "Upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahasuerus, namely, upon the **thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.**"

(Est 9:1) "Now **in the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar, on the thirteenth day of the same, when the king's commandment and his decree drew near to be**

**put in execution**, in the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to have power over them, (though it was turned to the contrary, that the Jews had rule over them that hated them;)" (Est 9:17-18) "On the thirteenth day of the month Adar; and on the fourteenth day of the same rested they, and made it a day of feasting and gladness. {18} **But the Jews that were at Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day thereof, and on the fourteenth thereof; and on the fifteenth day of the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.**"

The dates for Purim:

Esther 9:26 Wherefore **they called these days Purim after the name of Pur**. Therefore for all the words of this letter, and of that which they had seen concerning this matter, and which had come unto them, 27 The Jews ordained, and took upon them, and upon their seed, and upon all such as joined themselves unto them, so as it should not fail, that they would keep these two days according to their writing, and according to their appointed time every year; 28 And that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city; and that these days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the memorial of them perish from their seed. 29 Then Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew, wrote with all authority, to confirm this second letter of Purim. 30 And he sent the letters unto all the Jews, to the hundred twenty and seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth, 31 To confirm these days of Purim in their times appointed, according as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had enjoined them, and as they had decreed for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fastings and their cry. 32 And the decree of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim; and it was written in the book.

**The name "purim" derives from "pur". casting of lots.**

3. A man of God was mistakenly mis-identified as an Egyptian who led a huge gang of murderers. Who?

**Answer: Paul while in Jerusalem** The chief captain asked if he spoke Greek, and then asked if he were not "that Egyptian . . ."? Acts 21:37-38.

Acts 21:17 And when we **were come to Jerusalem**, the brethren received us gladly. . . .37 And as **Paul** was to be led into the castle, he said unto the chief captain, May I speak unto thee? Who said, Canst thou speak Greek? 38 **Art not thou that Egyptian, which before these days madest an uproar, and leddest out into the wilderness four thousand men that were murderers?**

4. On what occasion did sharing fruit with another person lead to sin?

**Answer: When Eve gave to Adam the fruit of the tree of knowledge "and he did eat."**

(Gen 3:6) "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and

did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat."

(Gen 3:17) "And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;"

(Rom 5:12) "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."

5. What caused both darkness and the destruction of fruit?

**Answer: The eighth plague (locusts)**

(Exo 10:13-15) "And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day, and all that night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts. {14} And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the coasts of Egypt: very grievous were they; before them there were no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such. {15} For they covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left: and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or in the herbs of the field, through all the land of Egypt."

6. What is to be the Christian's treatment of those that are involved in non-fruitbearing acts of the "dark" life?

**Answer: Reprove them**

(Eph 5:11-13) "And **have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.** {12} For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. {13} But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light."

Reprove or "expose" them, the latter according to most newer versions, Eph. 5:11. The CEV says, "show how wrong they are." BAGD Lexicon defines the Greek word "elegcho" as "bring to light, expose, set forth."

7. What prevents a lack of fruit in knowing the Lord?

**Answer: Faith, virtue, Knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, charity in abundance.**

(2 Pet 1:5-9) "And beside this, giving all diligence, **add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; {6} And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; {7} And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. {8} For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. {9} But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins."**

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## Spoiled by Momma

Sometimes, I think that a mother's devotion to her children is a whole lot like that of Christ for His Church! We've all seen a mother that constantly picks up after her children, tending to their every need. Mothers are always fixing things, cleaning things, cooking things, forgiving things, and sometimes, even crying over things. A mother always serves and is always expected to. That's just what Mothers do... Right? A mother is usually taken for granted! And usually, they spoil us!

And so we see the comparison to Christ: He has served us so well, that we many times, take Him for granted. We get a little lazy sometimes, because we think... "He has done it all" He has paid the price for us. He has done everything. He has made us complete. There is nothing left for us to do, because He has already done it for us! And, after all, that was his job, wasn't it? To come and save us, that is what He was born to do... Right? He is expected to save us, that's just what Saviors do... Right? Christ is usually taken for granted! And usually, He spoils us!

We can't take out the trash one time and say, "Oh, look what I've done, you know I did take the trash out, yeah... I put it in the trash can... what a man!" We can't just pick up our spiritual undergarments, and think, Oh, Christ will pick up the rest... that's His job! Or... We might make Him cry.

by John Thomas in Mt. Juliet bulletin, October 8, 2000

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<b>For the record:</b>	9/2	9/9	9/16	9/23
Bible Study	18	18	17	18
AM Worship	24	34	29	26
PM Worship	21		27	25
Wed. Bible Study	21	17	16	16
Contribution	532.81	\$626	\$513	\$515

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## Prayer Needs

Pray for the sick and injured of our congregation.

Samuel Curl went through cranial surgery Tuesday at Vanderbilt, and as of Wednesday was doing well despite some swelling.

Ann Conner had some serious problems with her blood pressure this week, but is hoping to get some relief with a new treatment plan.

Sister Mason got a good report from the doctor this past week

Pray for the safe return of Andrew Thomas, grandson of Ken and Judy, who left for active duty in Iraq this past week.

Remember all of our shut-ins and the older members who have to deal with the infirmities that come with age.

**Pray for our youth in their preparation for Bible Bowl. First event is next Sunday at Bybee Branch, McMinnville.**

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<b>Assignments</b>	<b>September 30</b>	<b>October 7</b>
<b>Song leader (SS)</b>	Ken Thomas	Tim Waldron
<b>Announcements</b>	Junior Conner	Andy Miller
<b>Songleader-Worship</b>	Tim Waldron	Wayne Gannon
<b>Scripture reading</b>	Daniel Green	T J Waldron
<b>Opening prayer</b>	Joe Green	James Mason
<b>Table service (center)</b>	Wayne Gannon	Mason Fisher
<b>(center)</b>	Ken Thomas	Cole Gordon
<b>(outside)</b>	Junior Conner	Joe Green
<b>(outside)</b>	Daniel Green	T J Waldron
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	James Mason	Lee Rose
<i>If you cannot serve,</i>	<i>please contact</i>	<b>Junior Conner</b>

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