



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>

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It Was Amazing

By Stan Mitchell

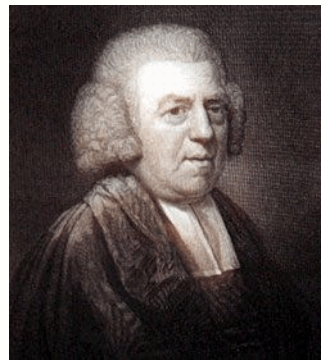
"Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind, and straining towards what is ahead, I press on toward the goal..." (Philippians 3:13).

What do you suppose is the most despicable, most hurtful business in history? Selling illegal drugs to kids? Serving for a dictator's secret police?

He dealt in the most inhuman trade of all, snatching bewildered tribesmen from West Africa, piling them into stinking cargo ships and transporting them to the Americas. He profited from human cargo, became wealthy by their misery. Families mourned the disappearance of fathers and sons from their village, villages mourned the loss of their daughters.

Then one day, he was confronted with the horror of his job. And he realized that he was accountable, not to the Better Business Bureau, but to God Almighty. And he did not come to God lightly, for he knew the staggering debt he owed.

And somehow, he put it behind him, allowing God's grace to give him freedom from his crushing guilt. It was John Newton who penned the words to that greatest of hymns:



"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me."

It is possible that he heard that tune sung by the very men and women he traded in, a song of mourning for freedom lost, and, by God's grace, this haunting melody is now known to speak of the greatest freedom in history.

He put it behind him. Whatever it is that you have done, know this: You can, too.

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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 November 23

“Women of the Bible”

1. Who was the wife of Zacharias, a priest?
2. Who had a fever that was cured by Jesus?
3. What wife of David was noted for her beauty?
4. What wife of David despised him because of a dance?
5. What woman ran to tell of meeting Christ at a well?
6. What woman helped a preacher get his message in harmony with the truth of God?
7. What wicked woman was from a valley of Sorek?

Answers for week of November 16

Theme questions: "Food for Thought"

1. Grapes and raisins come in bunches. In the KJV an animal is said to have bunches. What is a bunch on this animal? (Refer to a modern translation if you need to.)

Answer: the hump on a camel

King James version: Is 30.6 The burden of the beasts of the south: into the land of trouble and anguish, from whence come the young and old lion, the viper and fiery flying serpent, they will carry their riches upon the shoulders of young asses, and their treasures upon the bunches of camels, to a people that shall not profit them.

by comparison - - - American Standard Version . . . their treasures upon the humps of camels.

Hebrew language: dabbesheth (dab-beh'-sheth) - a sticky mass, i.e. the hump of a camel.

Interestingly, almost all of the modern translations use "humps"

2. What leaders of God's people said that their enemies would be "bread" for them? (And what do you think this means?)

Answer: Joshua and Caleb

Numbers 14:6 And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes: 7 And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land. 8 If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which

floweth with milk and honey. 9 Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defense is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

Here are answers I've seen in the past for "they are bread for us." "The enemy was ready to be devoured."

In our modern day English we have idioms.. "Easy as pie". Perhaps this is what they meant by the people being as "bread" for the Israelites since God had departed from their enemies. Another idiom is "we are going to eat them alive" which means essentially the same thing. Also since God had "delivered" them manna, and was now preparing to "deliver" them their enemies, the victory would be assured.

It simply means that with the Lord's help, the inhabitants of the land would be easy to overcome.

I like what Burton Coffman had to say: "Several quaint comments on this explain the metaphor: We shall gobble them up! Those people will be 'duck soup' for us." Put another way, "it's a piece of cake!" You have nothing to worry about, we can destroy the enemy as easily as we can eat bread." . . . Cf. Psalms 14:4: "Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD."

3. We would think of a store as a place to trade, but the Bible uses the word "store" differently. Find the words "old store" and tell what the expression means in context.

Answer: Lev. 25:22 and 26:10 use the expression.

Lev. 25:22 "And ye shall sow the eighth year, and eat yet of old fruit until the ninth year; until her fruits come in ye shall eat of the old store."

Lev 26:10 "And ye shall eat old store, and bring forth the old because of the new."

The meaning of "old store" is the production from a prior year's crop that is still stored when the new crop comes in. This was an issue of trusting God. If they planted during the sabbatical year, that would be evidence either of greed/covetousness or a lack of trust in the providence of God by way of the great harvest that was in storage.

Here are two comments (that came from contestants) that I share for your learning.

1. Old store: This refers to produce that was harvested or prepared in previous years but not used up yet. It was to be eaten until the new crop was harvested and placed in storage. In particular, they were not to sow seed the seventh year, since it was to be a sabbath for the land.

So, God gave them an extra good crop (two years worth) the sixth year and it was to last until the seventh year. They were not to eat or harvest what grew during the seventh year, but ate the old store until the 8th year crop was ready.

However, the 50th year was to be the year of jubilee and so they were not to sow a crop for two years, and the sixth year crop would be enough (3 years worth) to last until the 9th year. This was the old store they were to eat until the 9th year crop came in. They could eat the volunteer crop in the fields this year, but they couldn't reap it.

2. Two other verses of scripture throw some light on what this "store" may have contained:

2 Chronicles 11:11 And he fortified the strong holds, and put captains in them, and store of victual, and of oil and wine.

Jeremiah 41:8 But ten men were found among them that said unto Ishmael, Slay us not: for we have treasures in the field, of wheat, and of barley, and of oil, and of honey. So he forbore, and slew them not among their brethren.

4. Many fruits (oranges, bananas, lemons, etc.) are not named in the Bible. Find as many fruits as you can (no less than four) in the Bible. They can be from tree or vine.

Answer: There is a difficulty here because "fruit" can be taken to mean the productiveness of any plant or animal. (Deu 28:4 KJV) "Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep."

Some fruiting plants produce drupes (fruit with a single seed). Others produce berries (with multiple seeds). A biologist could help us with the classifications, but the simple point of this question was to get you to do some research that will demonstrate the absence of mention of many popular sweet fruits that we enjoy. **The most obvious (sweet) fruits are grapes (and raisins), figs, apples, melons, and pomegranates. In a broader sense olives, various nuts, etc. could be included as fruits.**

Here are some of the most inclusive verses.

Hag 2:19 Is the seed yet in the barn? yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth: from this day will I bless [you].

Joel 1:12 The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are

withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men.

Numbers 13:23: And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs.

1 Samuel 25:18: Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched corn, and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on asses.

James 3:12 Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

Numbers 11:5: We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick:

Genesis 43:11 And their father Israel said unto them, If it must be so now, do this; take of the best fruits in the land in your vessels, and carry down the man a present, a little balm, and a little honey, spices, and myrrh, nuts, and . . .

Song of Songs 2:3 As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.

5. Sugar and molasses are not mentioned by name in the Bible, (nor saccharine or aspartame!) but what seems to be the favorite sweetener of Bible times?

Answer Honey. (There are a few references to "sweet cane", but honey is predominant.)

A few examples of many references

Judges 14:18: And the men of the city said unto him on the seventh day before the sun went down, What is sweeter than honey?

Psalms 19:10: More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Psalms 119:103: How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Proverbs 16:24: Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

Proverbs 24:13: My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste.

Ezekiel 3:3: And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness

Psa 19:10 "More to be desired are they than gold, yea,

than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb."

Revelation 10:9 And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.

6. Bitter herbs are mentioned in the Bible, but what is bitter to drink?

Answer: Strong drink to transgressors (Israelites)

Isaiah 24:9 They shall not drink wine with a song; strong drink shall be bitter to them that drink it. 10 The city of confusion is broken down: every house is shut up, that no man may come in. There is also reference to bitter water. Ex. 15:23, Num 5:24-27, and Rev. 8:11

Exodus 15:23 (KJV) And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah. - One modern translation (NIV) uses the word "beer".

7. In one of Aesop's fables a fox tries to reach some fruit, but having failed concluded that they were sour anyway. What sour fruit depicts something that a person pretends not to have wanted even when he did? (Find a Bible reference to the fruit.)

Answer: Sour Grapes

Jeremiah 31:29-30.

29. In those days they shall say no more, The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are set on edge. 30. But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge.

Ezekiel 18:2. What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge?

8. What fruit is connected with the protective eye of God, as he views the descendants of Jacob?

Answer: Apple.

Deuteronomy 32:9-12 For the LORD'S portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance. 10 He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. 11 As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings: 12 So the LORD alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him.

Lamentations 2:18, Their heart cried unto the Lord, O wall of the daughter of Zion, let tears run down like a river day and night: give thyself no rest; let not the apple of thine eye cease.

Zech 2:8 For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

Beech Grove News, Prayer Requests

Prayer needs: Brother and sister Wymer Wiser; William Miller; Laura Singleton; Melissa Dickerson, Vadna Trail James Mason - cataract surgery this past Wednesday. Judy Thomas - broken bone, upper arm. Our sympathy for the Roses. Iva's sister, Nell Mason, passed away.

Visitation for Mrs. Mason will be Monday evening, 5 until 9, at Coffee County Funeral Home. Funeral will be Tuesday at 11 A.M.

Pantry Needs to be Re-stocked: Thanks to all who have brought food for giving to the needy. Let's work on canned meats and fish for next week. Please continue a sustained effort to bring items.

Welcome, visitors

Attendance and Contribution for the Week

Nov16 BS 27 MW 36 EW 21 Wed 14 Cont. \$596
Nov 9: BS MW EW Wed Cont. \$
Nov 2: BS 26 MW 29 EW 25 Wed 17 Cont. \$572
Oct. 26: BS 19 MW 41 EW 31 Wed 18 Cont. \$653

Let us all encourage one another to attend all services by word and example.

Assignments	November 23	November 30
Song leader (SS)	Wayne Gannon	Wayne Gannon
Announcements	Junior Conner	Junior Conner
Songleader-Worship	Tim Waldron	Tim Waldron
Scripture reading	Daniel Green	T J Waldron
Opening prayer	James Mason	Ken Thomas
Table service (center)	Joe Green	Joe Green
(center)	Steve Miller	Steve Miller
(outside)	T J Waldron	Junior Conner
(outside)	Daniel Green	Ernie Green
Closing Prayer	Lee Rose	Daniel Green