

Beech Grove News

Remember all those who are dealing with health problems. Remember Sister Rose and her family in prayer as she recuperates. She has been able to eat some food with the help of a nerve stimulator. Junior Conner returned home but was still quite sick earlier this week. Wayne Gannon had some tests this week and goes for a stress test Monday. Pray for him. Several who had been sick were back at worship this week.

Record of our attendance:

Date	Classes	AM	PM	Cont.	Wed.
11/06	25*	30	22	\$485	19
11/13	21	29	22	\$460	25
11/20	22	29	25	\$600+	19
11/27	17	25	12	\$748	14
12/04	15	24	22	\$631	24
Goals	25	40	30		35

Dec. 11

Song Leader Tim Waldron

Scripture Reader Daniel Green

Workers list for December

Announce: Joe Green / Andy Miller

At the **Lord's Table** (all month)

Center: Ken Thomas and James Mason

Sides: Junior Conner and Andy Miller

Sunday A.M. Prayers

	Opening	Closing
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12/11	Ken Thomas	Tim Waldron
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12/18	Joe Green	Nick Graham
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12/25	Junior Conner	T. J. Waldron
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Eugene Gilmore of Smyrna will preach and teach the adult class December 18 since the Thomases will be out of town with family. Brother Gilmore is an experienced preacher and song leader. At the present time worships at Highland Heights when he is not preaching elsewhere. Please welcome him here.

"More Blessed" Continued

Years later the daughter surprised her mother by recalling that the visit to help the needy was the most memorable event of her holiday experiences. The passing of time and the maturing of the mind had made an unpleasant experience into a treasured memory.

It sometimes takes some ingenuity to teach our youth the true virtues and values of life. My son John was able to convince young folks in Mt. Juliet that it would be "fun" to "rake and run", going to the homes of elderly people and raking their yards, and running to another yard before their good deed was even detected. Thus began a tradition that continues even until now, with a whole new set of young folks and youth worker. "The liberal deviseth liberal things; and by liberal things he shall stand." (Isa. 32:8) "As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth forever." (2 Cor. 9:9)

I encourage every parent to try to instill the spirit of giving into their children. One of these days when you are old and needy, it just might pay off for you! Ken Thomas.

Beech Grove Church of Christ

meeting at Beech Grove, TN since 1875

Highway 41 near I-24 exit 97

Phone 931-394-2305

<http://www.homestead.com/KenThomasHomepage/BeechGroveChurch.html>

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

December 11, 2005

More Blessed to Give than to Receive

In Acts 20 the apostle Paul reminded the elders from Ephesus about his work among them. He had supported himself and his companion, and urged these fellow Christians to follow him, "that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Those who are spiritually immature may have difficulty appreciating this quote from Jesus, but just from a simple analysis, how much better it is to help others than to be attended by a nurse, to be a benefactor than to need one, to give to a beggar than to beg, etc.

At this time of year we generally think of "doing for others," and perhaps that is what makes this season of the year somewhat special. I remember reading of a mother who felt her efforts to involve her children in an act of giving to a wretchedly poor family had failed to convey the desired result. Her daughter had asked her as they returned home, "Mother, why did you take us to such a terrible place?"



Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Classes 10 AM

Worship 11 AM
6 PM

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 7 PM

Mission Works

Restoration Radio

Jim Waldron

Manuelito Children's

Home

Mail: P.O. Box 85

Beech Grove, TN 37018

Visitors

Always

Welcome



Bible Search

by Kenneth L. Thomas

Questions for week of December 11

1. What device did a prophet use to make a sunken axe head float?
2. What object was used in making a rock provide water?
3. Who divided a river by striking it with clothing?
3. Whose hand was used to control water levels in a large body of water?
4. Who talked to raging waters and calmed them?
5. Who thought that his homeland had better water than the place to which he had come for healing?
6. Who experienced salvation by water?
7. Why was Aenon near Salim chosen as a place for baptizing?

Answers for week of December 4

1. Where is a passage that connects wisdom and discretion with restful sleep?

Answer: Prov 3:19-24, especially 21 and 24.

(Prov 3:19-24 KJV) "The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens. {20} By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew. {21} My son, let not them depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion: {22} So shall they be life unto thy soul, and grace to thy neck. {23} Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy foot shall not stumble. {24} When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid: yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet."

2. What passage speaks of a fear of heights by those growing older?

Answer: Verse 5 of Ecclesiastes speaks of the fear of heights. The figurative language in the preceding verses describe the process of aging.

Ecclesiastes 12: 1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them; 2 While the sun, or the light, or

the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain: 3 In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened, 4 And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of musick shall be brought low; 5 Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets:

3. What had a woman seen that caused her to cry out, and a king told her not to fear?

Answer: She saw an old man (Samuel) covered with a mantle, first thinking him to be "gods" rising. King Saul had no one to turn to for help in his distress and fear. Samuel was dead, and God refused to help Saul. So he disguised himself and turned to a "medium", sometimes called the witch of Endor. He asked her to bring Samuel back from the dead, and TO HER SURPRISE she was able to do so. She seems to have been shocked by the appearance of Samuel. Her cry turned into an accusation against Saul, that he had deceived her, and he told her not to fear - - THEN he asked her what she had seen. To me this story is funny. Samuel, returned from death asks why they had disturbed him. He asked, "If God has departed from you, why do you think I can help you? 1 Sam. 28:8 - 16

11 Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel. 12 And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul. 13 And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth. 14 And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself. 15 And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted

4. Who charged judges to be fair in judgment, uninfluenced by fear?

Answer: Moses. Verse 1 below identifies Moses, and verses 16 and 17 contain the charge to the judges to be fair regardless of the station in life of those being judged. (Another person who charged judges to be fair, and to do so IN THE FEAR OF GOD was Jehoshaphat 2 Chronicles 19:5-7) Deuteronomy 1:1 These be the words which Moses spake unto all Israel. . 16 And I charged your judges at that time, saying, Hear the causes between your brethren, and judge righteously between every man and his brother, and the stranger that is with him. 17 Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment is God's: and the cause that is too hard for you, bring it unto me, and I will hear it.

5. Why should the fact that God is the creator quell our fear of a human? **Answer: Our maker is the one who stretched the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth. It is He who comforts us, and asks, "Who art thou that thou shouldst be afraid of a man that shall die," whose life is as grass.** The Eternal One not only creates, but will be here when the enemy is gone.

Isa. 51:11 Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away. 12 I, even I, am he that comforteth you: who art thou, that thou shouldst be afraid of a man that shall die, and of the son of man which shall be made as grass;

13 And forgettest the LORD thy maker, that hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth; and hast feared continually every day because of the fury of the oppressor, as if he were ready to destroy? and where is the fury of the oppressor? (See also Isaiah 43:1.)

6. What prophet was told to speak his message despite what his hearers said or how they looked at him?

Answer 1: Jeremiah

Jeremiah 1:1 The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, of the priests that were in Anathoth in the

land of Benjamin: 2 To whom the word of the LORD came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign. . . 8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD. . . 17 Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee: be not dismayed at their faces, lest I confound thee before them. 18 For, behold, I have made thee this day a defenced city, and an iron pillar, and brasen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land. 19 And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith the LORD, to deliver thee.

Answer 2: Ezekiel - Eze 2:1 And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee. :2 And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me. 3 And he said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, [even] unto this very day. 4 For [they are] impudent children and stiffhearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD. 5 And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, (for they [are] a rebellious house,) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them. 6 And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briars and thorns [be] with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they [be] a rebellious house. 7 And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they [are] most rebellious.

7. What had occurred in a ruler's life that prompted Jesus to tell him not to fear, but "Only believe"?

Answer: He had just heard his daughter was dead. (Obviously this expression has NOTHING to do with the doctrine of salvation by "faith only.")

Mark 5:35 While he yet spake, there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain which said, Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further? 36 As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe.