



Beech Grove Church of Christ

meeting at Beech Grove, 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>

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

Wisdom by Stan Mitchell

If any of you is lacking wisdom, ask God who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given to you. James 1:5

When you last begged God for something, what was it? Wisdom? Or something a little more physical, and earthly?

Solomon prayed for wisdom to govern God's people. One suspects that his request was something of a surprise to the Lord. God, who had dealt with several materialistically-minded people before seems to have expected Solomon to ask for "long life, or riches or the life of [his] enemies" (1 Kings 3:9-11). For the Lord, it must have been a refreshing change!

Now wisdom should be distinguished from a mere accumulation of facts. Education and book learning has its value, but these are not synonymous with wisdom. You might be a rocket scientist and not attain Biblical wisdom.

But James speaks of a particular kind of wisdom. He writes of wisdom in the context of trials and difficulties. In the three verses previous to these words on wisdom, he urges his readers to "consider it pure joy when you face trials of many kinds." In just a few more verses (verse 12), he will declare, "Blessed is the man who endures trials."

In a word, James is saying that when in times of trial, duress and suffering, if we cannot see the benefit or the meaning in it, ask God for the wisdom to see it! This particular kind of wisdom will help us to learn the lesson of suffering. Trials do not have to be senseless wallops that send us reeling. They can be the occasion for learning, growing and maturing.

You don't see that? Then ask God for the wisdom to see it!

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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

(Wording is based on KJV)

by Kenneth L. Thomas

Questions for week of December 23

1. What is the result of being a "lover" of sleeping?
2. Who was told to go to a city and read God's condemnation of the city, and when the reading is finished, to throw the book from which he read into a great river (with a stone attached to the book).
3. What city's doom was pictured by the action of the man described above?
4. Introduction. . . (Isa 40:28) "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding." According to the scripture above, God does not have the same problem that humans have with becoming tired (weary). But there is a passage that clearly teaches that some things have been said by people that made God "weary". What statement does God get weary of, and what question?
5. What was the occupation of the men who (by stoning him) seriously injured a man's head for asking them for fruit of the vine?
6. Who threw something into Jesus' teeth, and what did they throw?
7. Most uses of the word "craft" refer to the work or skill people use to make a living. For instance, Paul was a craftsman making tents. What use of the word (in the King James Version) uses the word as an evil plot?

Answers for week of December 9

1. Question: Good tidings from a distant land are compared to frigid liquid refreshment to a person who thirsts . . . in what passage?
Answer: Proverbs 25:25. As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.
2. To what king did God promise to straighten his path and give him riches? (This promise was made in prophecy before the king was born.)
Answer: Cyrus, King of Persia during the time of Daniel. Though Cyrus reigned over 500 years before

the time of Christ, Isaiah records God's plan for Cyrus over 700 years before Christ, thus making a remarkable prophecy that was fulfilled by the life of a Persian king who was named specifically.

Isa. 45:2 - crooked paths straightened

Isa. 45:3 - promise of treasures, riches

(Isa 45:1-6) "Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut; {2} I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron: {3} And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel. {4} For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me. {5} I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: {6} That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else."

3. Whose son was a preacher who straightened the path for the Lord?

Answer: Zacharias. John was the preacher who made a "straight path" for Jesus. Luke 3:2

(Luke 3:1-6) "Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene, {2} Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. {3} And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins; {4} As it is written in the book of the words of Esaias the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. {5} Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth; {6} And all

flesh shall see the salvation of God." (Cf. Mat 3:1-3 Mark 1:3 and John 1:23)

4. What provision was made for a person under the law of Moses to participate in the Passover if they were not able to keep the Passover at the appointed date (fourteenth day of first month) due to either contacting a corpse or traveling afar?

Answer: found in Numbers 9

They were allowed to have a Passover on the 14th of the second month. (vss.10,11) But notice that neglect of the set time for Passover was an unexcused absence, and those who simply chose not to observe it at the appointed time were condemned by the Lord. (verse 13)

(Num 9:1-14) "And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying, {2} Let the children of Israel also keep the passover at his appointed season. {3} In the fourteenth day of this month, at even, ye shall keep it in his appointed season: according to all the rites of it, and according to all the ceremonies thereof, shall ye keep it. {4} And Moses spake unto the children of Israel, that they should keep the passover. {5} And they kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the first month at even in the wilderness of Sinai: according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did the children of Israel. {6} And there were certain men, who were defiled by the dead body of a man, that they could not keep the passover on that day: and they came before Moses and before Aaron on that day: {7} And those men said unto him, We are defiled by the dead body of a man: wherefore are we kept back, that we may not offer an offering of the LORD in his appointed season among the children of Israel? {8} And Moses said unto them, Stand still, and I will hear what the LORD will command concerning you. {9} And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, {10} Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If any man of you or of your posterity shall be unclean by reason of a dead body, or be in a journey afar off, yet he shall keep the passover unto the LORD. {11} The fourteenth day of the second month at even they shall keep it, and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. {12} They shall leave none of it unto the morning, nor break any bone of it: according to all the ordinances of the

passover they shall keep it. {13} But the man that is clean, and is not in a journey, and forbeareth to keep the passover, even the same soul shall be cut off from among his people: because he brought not the offering of the LORD in his appointed season, that man shall bear his sin. {14} And if a stranger shall sojourn among you, and will keep the passover unto the LORD; according to the ordinance of the passover, and according to the manner thereof, so shall he do: ye shall have one ordinance, both for the stranger, and for him that was born in the land."

5. What regulation related to the Passover had to do with the bones of the sacrifice, and is related also to the crucifixion of Jesus? Give reference for both aspects of the question.

Answer: The bones of the sacrifice were to be unbroken. When Jesus "our Passover" died, not a bone of his was broken. (This not only fulfilled prophecy, but completed the picture of Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away sin, unlike the lambs and other animals whose death could not pay for sin.)

Exodus 12:46, Numbers 9:12, Psalm 34:20, John 19:36

(Exo 12:43-47) "And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This is the ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof: {44} But every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof. {45} A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof. {46} In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof. {47} All the congregation of Israel shall keep it."

(See Num 9:10-12 in previous answer)

(Psa 34:20) "He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken."

(John 19:30-37) "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. {31} The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. {32} Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the

first, and of the other which was crucified with him. {33} But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: {34} But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. {35} And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe. {36} For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken. {37} And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced."

6. What fabric composed the covering of a youthful follower of Jesus who escaped a group of young men who were trying to hold him? (He left the garment behind!)

Answer: Linen.

(Mark 14:48-52) "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Are ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and with staves to take me? {49} I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and ye took me not: but the scriptures must be fulfilled. {50} And they all forsook him, and fled. {51} And there followed him a certain young man, having a linen cloth cast about his naked body; and the young men laid hold on him: {52} And he left the linen cloth, and fled from them naked."

7. What king rejected the consultants that his predecessor had and followed the advice of new consultants to the ruin and division of his kingdom?

Answer: Rehoboam. 1 Kings 12 and 2 Chron. 10

Outline of the sequence of events in 1 Kings:

verse 6 - He called for the counsel of the old men.

verse 8 - He forsook the counsel of the old men.

verse 8-9 He called for the counsel of the young men.

verse 14 Rehoboam answered the people with the advice from the young men.

verse 16-20 The people made Jeroboam king over Israel and Rehoboam fled to Jerusalem.

(Read 1 Ki 12:3-24) "That they sent and called him. And Jeroboam and all the congregation of Israel came, and spake unto Rehoboam, saying, {4} Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve thee. {5} And he said unto them, Depart yet for three days, then come again to me. And the

people departed. {6} And king Rehoboam consulted with the old men, that stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, and said, How do ye advise that I may answer this people? {7} And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be thy servants for ever. {8} But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, and which stood before him:

Prayer Needs and Requests

◆ Pray for the sick and injured of our congregation. Ann Conner is rehabilitating after knee replacement surgery. Nick Graham's father (lung cancer). Jaycee Willis (eye surgery and followup treatment). Donna Gordon (foot injury).

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

◆ Thanks to Wayne Gannon for preaching last week.

For the record:	11/25	12/2	12/9	12/16
Bible Study	15	20	12	23
AM Worship	28	26	31	35
PM Worship	28	29	29	19
Wed. Bible Study	18	21		10
Contribution	\$581	\$650	\$626	\$409

Assignments	December 23	December 30
Song leader (SS)	Tim Waldron	Wayne Gannon
Announcements	Junior Conner	Junior Conner
Songleader-Worship	Wayne Gannon	Tim Waldron
Scripture reading	Daniel Green	T J Waldron
Opening prayer	Lee Rose	Wayne Gannon
Table service (center)	Joe Green	Joe Green
(center)	Nick Graham	Daniel Green
(outside)	Andy Miller	Nick Graham
(outside)	T J Waldron	T J Waldron
Closing Prayer	James Mason	Lee Rose
<i>If you cannot serve, please contact Junior Conner</i>		

