



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

Knowing the Time

by Michael E. Brooks

"And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts" (Romans 13:11-14 NKJV).

There are few if any more frequently asked questions than the simple, "What time is it?" We have a constant need to know the time. There are appointments to keep, schedules to maintain, and routines demanding our attention. One constant element of travel is confusion over time. Jet lag changes the body clock, so that I may know it is noon, but my body thinks it is midnight and wants to sleep. Every destination is in a different time zone. Sometimes those are not identified easily so an unexpected change in time zones makes an appointment hard to keep. Then there is the International Date line. The first few times I

crossed it I wasn't sure what month I was in, much less the day and hour. Try flying 8,000 miles and then landing only 1 hour after you took off, on the same day. On top of all this, during the same 3 month long trip I may visit 3 countries each of which follows a separate calendar all differing from that used in the U.S. When I discuss plans and dates with locals I may not recognize either the month or year that they name. Coordination is essential.

As important as it is to keep up with hour, date, month, and year in the physical world, it is far more urgent to keep our spiritual clocks and calendars regulated. The most emphasized date in all Scripture is "The Day of the Lord" (Joel 2:1, 1 Corinthians 1:14, 2 Peter 3:10). Depending upon context that phrase may refer to a day of God's judgment upon Israel, the first coming of Jesus, or his second coming and the final judgment of the world. More generically it refers to God's intervention in time. When God orchestrates affairs and fulfills his will upon the earth, it is his day. In Romans 13, Paul affirms Christian faith that we are living in the period of such events. We know it is his time, the time when his will is being done. This should and does alter our approach to life.

(Continued back page)

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 January 6

1. What black-colored bird (forbidden as food for Jews because it was unclean) was used to feed a man who was in hiding? Name the kind of bird, give a scripture reference that proves it was black, another that proves it was not to be eaten, and another that names the man who was fed. Please find all three scripture citations.
2. What servant of a prophet was telling about the prophet raising a dead man to life when the man and his mother showed up?
3. What did the successor to Ben-Hadad, an ailing Syrian ruler, do to hasten his own ascension to the throne?
4. Into what was an Alexandrian ship in danger of "falling" during a storm?
5. What tribe of Israel was defeated decisively by enemies who used a smoke signal and an ambush in the process of the attack on them.
6. Who indicated that man is incapable of self-direction, but, in spite of that, had suggestions for how he desired to be corrected by God?"
7. What king deposed his mother as queen because of her promotion of idolatry?

Answers for week of December 30

1. The flight of fowls is used to describe the defense of Jerusalem by God. In what passage?

Answer: Isaiah 31:5

Isa. 31:1 Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD! 2 Yet he also is wise, and will bring evil, and will not call back his words: but will arise against the house of the evildoers, and against the help of them that work iniquity. 3 Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses flesh, and not spirit. When the LORD shall stretch out his hand, both

he that helpeth shall fall, and he that is holpen shall fall down, and they all shall fail together. 4 For thus hath the LORD spoken unto me, Like as the lion and the young lion roaring on his prey, when a multitude of shepherds is called forth against him, he will not be afraid of their voice, nor abase himself for the noise of them: so shall the LORD of hosts come down to fight for mount Zion, and for the hill thereof. 5 **As birds flying, so will the LORD of hosts defend Jerusalem; defending also he will deliver it; and passing over he will preserve it.**

2. What did the Lord do to make fish thirsty?

Answer: dried up the waters, Isa. 50:2

(Isa 50:1-2) "**Thus saith the LORD**, Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement, whom I have put away? or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves, and for your transgressions is your mother put away. {2} Wherefore, when I came, was there no man? when I called, was there none to answer? Is my hand shortened at all, that it cannot redeem? or have I no power to deliver? behold, **at my rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a wilderness: their fish stinketh, because there is no water, and dieth for thirst.**"

3. If fish could speak, what would their declaration be? (Read the context for the answer.)

Answer: (verse 7-9 is the key)

Despite the troubles that we endure, the hand of God is in control, and he holds our life in His hand.

(Job 12:1-10) "And Job answered and said, {2} No doubt but ye are the people, and wisdom shall die with you. {3} But I have understanding as well as you; I am not inferior to you: yea, who knoweth not such things as these? {4} I am as one mocked of his neighbour, who calleth upon God, and he answereth him: the just upright man is laughed to scorn. {5} He that is ready to slip with his feet is as a lamp despised in the thought of him that is at ease. {6} The tabernacles of robbers prosper, and they that provoke God are secure; into whose hand God bringeth abundantly. {7} But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee: {8} Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee: and **the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee.** {9} **Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this? {10} In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind."**

4. What cunning widow seduced a widower and became pregnant by him? This one's name is also the

name of two others, the beautiful sister and the fair daughter of a different man. Find the shared name and the references for all three women.

Answer: Tamar.

Seducer - Tamar, widow of Er and daughter in law of Judah who became pregnant by her father in law - **Genesis 38:6-24.**

Judah's daughter-in-law seduced him by trickery because he didn't give her his 3rd son Shelah as the law required

Sister - Tamar, fair sister of Absalom and daughter of David who was raped by another son of David, Ammon.

2 Samuel 13:1. And it came to pass after this, that **Absalom the son of David had a fair sister, whose name was Tamar**; and Amnon the son of David loved her . . . {11} "And when she had brought them unto him to eat, he took hold of her, and said unto her, Come lie with me, my sister. {12} And she answered him, Nay, my brother, do not force me; for no such thing ought to be done in Israel: do not thou this folly. {13} And I, whither shall I cause my shame to go? and as for thee, thou shalt be as one of the fools in Israel. Now therefore, I pray thee, speak unto the king; for he will not withhold me from thee. {14} Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice: but, being stronger than she, forced her, and lay with her. {15} Then Amnon hated her exceedingly; so that the hatred wherewith he hated her was greater than the love wherewith he had loved her. And Amnon said unto her, Arise, be gone."

Daughter-Tamar, daughter of Absalom-2 Sam. 14:27. And unto Absalom there were born three sons, and one daughter, whose name was Tamar: She was a woman of a fair countenance

5. What reader was threatened with being reported to a king for what he had read?

Answer: Baruch.

Jeremiah 36:16. Now it came to pass, **when they had heard all the words, they were afraid both one and other, and said unto Baruch, We will surely tell the king of all these words.** (See context in next question)

6. How did this man (see question 5) explain the production of the book he had read, in terms of pronunciation and writing?

Answer: Baruch had written the words (of God) which Jeremiah had "pronounced" with his mouth. Jer. 36: 18.

(Jer 36:10-20) "Then read Baruch in the book the words of Jeremiah in the house of the LORD, in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the higher

court, at the entry of the new gate of the LORD'S house, in the ears of all the people. {11} When Michaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, had heard out of the book all the words of the LORD, {12} Then he went down into the king's house, into the scribe's chamber: and, lo, all the princes sat there, even Elishama the scribe, and Delaiah the son of Shemaiah, and Elnathan the son of Achbor, and Gemariah the son of Shaphan, and Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and all the princes. {13} Then Michaiah declared unto them all the words that he had heard, when Baruch read the book in the ears of the people. {14} Therefore all the princes sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cushi, unto Baruch, saying, Take in thine hand the roll wherein thou hast read in the ears of the people, and come. So Baruch the son of Neriah took the roll in his hand, and came unto them. {15} And they said unto him, Sit down now, and read it in our ears. **So Baruch read it in their ears. {16} Now it came to pass, when they had heard all the words, they were afraid both one and other, and said unto Baruch, We will surely tell the king of all these words.** {17} And they asked Baruch, saying, Tell us now, How didst thou write all these words at his mouth? {18} Then Baruch answered them, **He pronounced all these words unto me with his mouth, and I wrote them with ink in the book.** {19} Then said the princes unto Baruch, Go, hide thee, thou and Jeremiah; and let no man know where ye be. {20} And they went in to the king into the court, but they laid up the roll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and told all the words in the ears of the king."

7. What prophet wrote almost the same thing that Peter wrote about the temporary nature of our earthly life?

Answer: Isaiah

Isaiah 40: 6. The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? **All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field: 7. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth:** because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. 8. The grass withereth, **the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.**

Compare 1 Peter 1:24-25

24. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: 25. But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

Prayer Needs and Requests

- ◆ Pray for the sick and injured of our congregation and our friends and relatives: Ann Conner, Nick Graham's father (lung cancer), Jaycee Willis (eye surgery and followup treatment). Jessie Pearl Green has two brothers with cancer, Arlin Mesick with kidney cancer, and Jerry Mesick with lung cancer. Donna Gordon has been to the doctor this week, sick. William Miller sustained a fall last week at NHC and is now in ICU at MTMC with a broken hip and pneumonia. Charlene Brandon has been out sick. Joan Dennis has been sick.
- ◆ Remember our shut-ins (Laura Singleton and Wm. Miller) and other members who have to deal with the infirmities that come with age.

Ben Reneger Report Last Sunday

The report by brother Ben was very encouraging. We learned that the American missionaries preach at several places in a short period of time, and the followup by the native preachers can take place over a longer time. The church is growing rapidly in many parts of India. It seems that such fruitfulness should be a real encouragement to those who support that work.

Bible Bowl Today at Woodbury - 2:00

Best wishes to our teens

Knowing the Time, (continued from front)

Just as we speed up when we find we are running late to get to work or to get the children to school, so we change our schedules and priorities upon realizing that "the day is at hand." Spiritually, what time is it? It is time to wake up (verse 11). Apathy is the enemy of all good works. We must realize the urgency of the gospel, the great need of fellow humans, and the blessings available to those who serve the Lord. Do not allow procrastination, laziness, or misplaced priorities lull us into inactivity. "How long will you slumber, O sluggard? When will you rise from your sleep?" (Proverbs 6:9). "Laziness casts one into a

deep sleep, and an idle person will suffer hunger" (Proverbs 19:15).

It is time to walk properly. There are near- universal standards of decency, recognized in almost every culture. Some things are inherently shameful, best done in darkness and secrecy. Other deeds deserve honor and approval and are proudly done in broad daylight for all to see. Christians know that all our actions should be of the latter type. God sees all that we do. We live in his day, and thus we must do those things of which he approves.

It is time to put on the Lord Jesus. For some, that involves confessing faith in Jesus, repenting of sin, and putting him on in baptism. For others it may mean a more serious effort to appropriate his Spirit, imitating him in all aspects of life (Ephesians 5:1). "For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3).

Let there be no confusion about what time it is It is God's time, and we are to be his servants.

Used by permission from Forthright Magazine (www.forthright.net). Copyright 2008 Michael Brooks

For the record:	12/9	12/16	12/23	12/30
Bible Study	12	23	14	19
AM Worship	31	35	31	29
PM Worship	29	19	19	21
Wed. Bible Study		10	23	22
Contribution	\$626	\$409	\$684	\$529

Assignments	January 6	January 13
Song leader (SS)	Tim Waldron	Wayne Gannon
Announcements	Joe Green	Junior Conner
Songleader-Worship	Wayne Gannon	Tim Waldron
Scripture reading	Daniel Green	Andy Miller
Opening prayer	Lee Rose	Wayne Gannon
Table service (center)	Tim Waldron	Joe Green
(center)	Junior Conner	Daniel Green
(outside)	Steve Miller	Nick Graham
(outside)	Andy Miller	T J Waldron
Closing Prayer	T J Waldron	Steve Miller
<i>If you cannot serve, please contact Junior Conner</i>		