

Beech Grove News

Sister Rose has been transferred to Siskin in Chattanooga. Sister Singleton came home after several weeks of rehab. Judy Thomas was sick this past week. Please report sicknesses, deaths, or other significant news to Ken. Phone number is on front of the bulletin.

Those who can are invited to go bowling Sunday night after service.

Faithful and Focused, (continued from front)

together at F-H in the early 60's, and often traveled together when we went home for a break. He always enjoyed a funny story, but I knew he was in for some serious teasing from his fellow Kentucky preachers.

Owen was somewhat embarrassed. But I began to think about the incident. You see, I had sent Owen on a mission, "Find Steve, and get us together." Owen had spotted Steve and immediately rushed to him, focusing only on one face which stood out above the crowd. Owen had been faithful to his task, and was so focused on the object of his search that he didn't see me.

Would it not be great if each of us would be so intent on doing the will of our Father in Heaven that we would not see the distractions that surround us? Would we not be more faithful if we had better focus?

Many times we forget what is really important. Like Peter walking on water (Mt. 14:29-30, we begin to sink when we see the wind and waves." Jesus calls us to faithfulness, and tells us that our faith is

Opportunities to Serve:

| Sunday | Feb 19 | Feb 26 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Song leader (SS) | Wayne Gannon | Tim Waldron |
| Announcements | T.J. Waldron | T.J. Waldron |
| Song leader (Wor) | Tim Waldron | Wayne Gannon |
| Scripture reading | Ken Thomas | Lee Rose |
| Opening prayer | Joe Green | Tim Waldron |
| Table service (center) | Tim Waldron | Tim Waldron |
| (center) | Cole Gordon | Cole Gordon |
| (outside) | T. J. Waldron | T. J. Waldron |
| (outside) | Daniel Gordon | Daniel Gordon |
| Closing Prayer | Nick Graham | T. J. Waldron |

often tested by small challenges. (Luke 16:10) "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much."

Let us all stay focused on the one who made our salvation possible, and be faithful to his admonition to teach others the good news of salvation by both word and deed. Evaluate your own life. Upon what are you focused?

"... Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us", Hebrews 12:1-2

Kenneth L. Thomas

Record of our attendance:

| Date | Classes | AM | PM | Cont. | Wed. |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| 01/08 | 18 | 31 | 33 | \$600 | 23 |
| 01/15 | 19 | 35 | 19 | \$585 | 27 |
| 01/22 | 19 | 35 | 27 | \$645 | 17 |
| 01/29 | 21 | 38 | 29 | \$589 | 22 |
| 02/05 | 20 | 24 | 22 | \$490 | 25 |
| 02/12 | 20 | 29 | 25 | \$573 | 28 |
| Goals | 25 | 45 | 36 | | 35 |

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



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

February 19, 2006

Faithful and Focused!

A humorous incident occurred during the lectures at Freed-Hardeman. I had made plans to meet Steve Higginbotham with whom I have worked as a moderator on an e-mail Bible discussion list. He had said it would be no problem to identify him because of his height, but since he was later than expected getting to the lectureship I was wandering around looking at a lot of tall people!

I had asked Mike Greene and Owen Solomon to help me keep an eye out for him and to help us get together. Shortly after I talked to Owen, Mike came up to me and said Steve had arrived I went immediately, and was enjoying a good conversation with those two and two other brethren who are also on our list.

Owen came rushing up, and with his eyes focused on Steve, he said, "Steve, there's a guy here who wants to meet you. His name is Ken Thomas!" I was standing less than a yard from Owen, almost directly in front of him, so the rest of the group thought Owen was just having some fun introducing me that way. But I realized Owen had not seen me. Finally, I stuck out my hand and said, "Hi, Owen, I'm Ken Thomas." He was stunned, and everyone else had a big laugh. Owen and I were students (cont. on back)



Bible Search

by Kenneth L. Thomas

Questions for week of February 19

(In other words!)

1. Who asked that his killers not be charged with what they were doing wrong?
2. What king offered clothing, gold and political power to the one who could read and explain a "writing"?
3. Who asked God if he was responsible for his brother's welfare?
4. Who indicated that his teacher had not fully convinced him to follow Christ?
5. Who talked to Jesus about the eating habits of canines?
6. What was done to help an elderly king stay warm?
7. Who recognized characteristics of both his sons that were evident in the younger of the two?

Answers for week of February 12

1. In a picturesque passage, idolaters are compared to that which will vanish quickly, including morning vapor (*cloud*) and condensation (*dew*), chimney smoke, and waste materials from threshing (*chaff*) blown away. Find it.
Answer: All four are found in Hosea 13
Hosea 13: 1 When Ephraim spake trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he offended in Baal, he died. 2 And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver,

and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves. 3 Therefore they shall be as the morning cloud and as the early dew that passeth away, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor, and as the smoke out of the chimney.

Comment: The rise and fall of the tribe of Ephraim is said to have been related to their attitude toward God and Baal. In Hosea's day idolatry was rampant, and the idolaters' destruction was eminent.

2. What were the meek to seek in order to escape God's wrath?

Answer: They were to seek the LORD, righteousness and meekness (Zeph 2:3)

Zephaniah 2:1 Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; 2 Before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD's anger come upon you. **3 Seek ye the LORD, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD's anger.**

3. What source of light is compared to a life that "goes out"?

Answer: lamp, candle, spark. The demise of the wicked is described as a flame on a candle or in a lamp being put out.

Prov 13:9 The light of the righteous rejoiceth: but the **lamp of the wicked shall be put out.**

Prov 20:20 Whoso curseth his father or his mother, **his lamp shall be put out** in obscure darkness.

Prov 24:19-20 Fret not thyself because of evil men, neither be thou envious at the

wicked; {20} For there shall be no reward to the evil man; the **candle of the wicked shall be put out.**

Job 18:1 Then answered Bildad the Shuhite, and said, 2 How long will it be ere ye make an end of words? mark, and afterwards we will speak. 3 Wherefore are we counted as beasts, and reputed vile in your sight? 4 He teareth himself in his anger: shall the earth be forsaken for thee? and shall the rock be removed out of his place? 5 Yea, the **light** of the wicked shall be put out, and the **spark** of his fire shall not shine. 6 The light shall be dark in his tabernacle, and **his candle shall be put out** with him.

Job 21:1 But Job answered and said, . . . 7 Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power? . . . 16 Lo, their good is not in their hand: the counsel of the wicked is far from me. 17 How oft is **the candle of the wicked put out!** and how oft cometh their destruction upon them! God distributeth sorrows in his anger.

4. Who compared his past life to a time when God lighted his path with a candle?

Answer: Job. Verse 2 speaks of the past, verse 3 speaks of the candle (lamp), and the rest of the chapter has Job recounting situations from the past when life was better. Job 29:1 Moreover Job continued his parable, and said, 2 **Oh that I were as in months past, as in the days when God preserved me; 3 When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness;** 4 As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God was upon my tabernacle; 5 When the Almighty was yet with me, when my children were about me;

5. The secrets of men always seem to come to light. What teacher illustrated that idea using the common practice of placing a light in an elevated place rather than down low?

Answer: Jesus

(Mark 4:21-23) And he said unto them, **Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick?** {22} For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was any thing kept secret, but that it should come abroad. {23} If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.

(Luke 8:16-17) No man, when he hath lighted a **candle**, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but **setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light.** {17} For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad.

6. With what shall those who practice hypocrisy be surprised?

Answer: Fearfulness

(Isa 33:14) The sinners in Zion are afraid; **fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites.** Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?

7. What six characteristics describe the spirit of the Lord as it stayed upon a descendant of Jesse?

Answer: Wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, and fear of the Lord.

(Isa 11:1-2) And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: {2} And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the **spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;**