

# Bible Cities



**Words to Find:**

Dan	Gibeon	Timnah
Ashdod	Dothan	Jazer
Bethlehem	Ekron	Joppa
Bethshan	Gath	Samaria
Bethshemesh	Gaza	Shiloh

Answers at: <http://www.openthoumineeyes.com/Puzzle/Cities.htm>

## Moving Time

*Gospel Herald*

When John Quincy Adams was eighty years of age a friend said to him, "Well, how is John Quincy Adams?"

"Thank you," he said. "John Quincy Adams is quite well, but

the house where he lives is becoming dilapidated. It is tottering. Time and the seasons have nearly destroyed it, and it is becoming quite uninhabitable. I shall have to move out soon. But John Quincy Adams is quite well, thank you."

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The **Bible View**




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## The Beauty of Death

*Barbara Brinkworth*

After living in Florida for 23 years, the fall season did not mean much to us.

There really is no fall, as such, in central Florida. The temperatures in September are still often in the 90's. By October, things begin to cool down; but still, there are very few deciduous trees. Buying a home this year in the North Carolina mountains has definitely changed our view of fall. After arriving here in April, we began to enjoy a year of firsts, where the seasons were concerned.

Spring was wonderful! There were so many beautiful flowers everywhere, even along the highway. Summer brought warmer, but very bearable, temperatures. The garden we had planted produced a bountiful and colorful harvest.

It was not long before fall began to show up. There are so many kinds of trees in western North Carolina. They began to

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## "I Have Done So Little"

*Author Unknown*

One time Ian MacLaren went to a certain house and saw an old Scotchish woman standing in her kitchen, weeping. She wiped her eyes with the corner of her apron, and when the minister asked her what was the matter, she confessed, "I have done so little." She further said, "I am so miserable and unhappy."

"Why?"

"Because I have done so little for Jesus. When I was just a wee girl the Lord spoke to my heart and I did so much want to live for Him."

"Well, haven't you?" Asked the minister.

"Yes, I have lived for Him, but I have done so little.

I want to be of some use in His service."

"What have you done?"

"I will tell you. I have washed dishes, cooked three meals a day, taken care of the children, mopped the floors, and mended their clothes. That is all I

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## The Beauty of Death

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change colors at different times; so there was a continual show of colors for many weeks. Red, yellow and bright orange leaves abounded.

As time went on, I soon realized that as beautiful as the leaves were, there was more to the story. When the weather got colder and the winds began to blow, the leaves started to drop off the trees. Soon the trees were almost bare. The reason for this was that the tree was “dying”; actually going in to winter mode. The beauty of the leaves, it turned out, was short lived.

As I thought about this phenomena, I pondered the beauty of another death—that of Jesus Christ. For leaves, the beauty came first, followed by death. Concerning the death of God’s Son, His death came first. The beauty followed afterward in the results of His death—the purchase of our salvation. At His death, all seemed lost. The disciples’ hopes were in ashes; but then came Sunday and the resurrection, as proof that God had accepted Jesus’ payment for our sins. Only God can give beauty for ashes.

Each of us will one day face death. We, too, can have beauty both before and after death; if we have accepted Jesus Christ alone as our personal Saviour (Rom. 10:9-10).

**“Death to the Christian is the funeral of all his sorrows and evils, and the resurrection of all his joys.”**

We are saved to do God’s will (Eph. 2:8-9). The beauty that shines from our lives after we are saved is all that we do for the Lord (Matt. 5:16). As we get nearer to death, just as the leaves, our lives can still be beautiful; as we faithfully serve the Lord in and through our local church (Heb. 10:25).

When our eyes will close in death, the beauty continues as we open them in Heaven (2 Corinthians 5:8). There we will spend eternity with the Lord in a place prepared just for us - “... and so shall we ever be with the Lord” (1 Thess. 4:17).

My mom used to say, “Beauty is as beauty does.” Are you enjoying the beauty of salvation? Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour? If you are saved, is your beauty showing through as you work in the service of your Lord?

## “I Have Done So Little”

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have done all my life, and I wanted to do something for Jesus.”

The preacher, sitting back in the armchair, looked at her and smiled. “Where are your boys?” he inquired. She had four sons and had named them after Bible characters.

“Oh, my boys? You know where Mark is. You ordained

**“Service to the Lord is the rent we pay for the space we occupy.”**

him yourself before he went to China. Why are you asking? There he is preaching for the Lord.”

“Where is Luke?” questioned the minister.

“Luke? He went out from your own church. Didn’t you send him out? I had a letter from him the other day.” She became happy and excited as she continued, “A revival has broken out on the mission station, and he said they were having a wonderful time in the service of the Lord.”

“Where is Matthew?”

“He is with his brother in China. And isn’t it fine that the two boys can be working together? I am so happy about that. John came to me the other night. He is my baby and is only nineteen, but he is a great boy. He said ‘Mother, I have been praying, and tonight in my room, the Lord spoke to my heart, and what do you suppose He told me? I have to go to my brother in Africa! But don’t you cry, Mother. The Lord told me I was to stay here and look after you until you go Home to Glory.’”

The minister looked at her, “And you say your life has been wasted in mopping floors, darning socks, washing dishes, and doing the trivial tasks. I’d like

to have your mansion when we are called home! It will be very near the throne!”

## Divine Paradoxes

*Sunday School Times*

- ★ The way to be a master is to be a servant;
- ★ The way to receive is to give;
- ★ The way to be rich is to be poor;
- ★ The way to be wise is to be a fool;
- ★ The way to be exalted is to abase yourself;
- ★ The way to live happily is to die to self.

## Helping Jesus

*Gospel Herald*

A medical student was in the operating room waiting to watch a great surgeon’s work. The surgeon’s assistant failed to come and the surgeon called this student to help him. “How proud I was,” he said, “to help this great man save a life.”

Jesus has called us to help Him save others, and we should be proud of the honor, and glad that we can help to save others to everlasting life. A great preacher once said that he praised God for the honor and privilege of helping to save the world. We have only to obey His command and trust Him to help us do this work for Him.

**“Whatever God gives you to do, do it as well as you can. This is the best possible preparation for what He may want you to do next.”**

—MacDonald