For a change of pace, we present a crossword puzzle with clues and answer words based entirely on the Bible. This is your opportunity to find out how much of a Bible expert you are.


The Old and the New Testaments are both involved in the puzzle. Not dipped into at all are the Apocrypha, the Pseudepigrapha, and the Agrapha.

You should be able to solve this puzzle in about ten hours of concentrated effort. If you take less time than that, you qualify as an expert.

One Biblical name appears twice in the puzzle, so consider yourself warned. Another name used in the puzzle may be spelled in either of two ways without interfering with any intersecting word or name. Which one? In the case of a third clue, there are at least five Biblical names that fit the clue and that can be inserted into the diagram so as to interlock properly with intersecting words and names. What is the clue, and what are the five answer words?

To place the crossword diagram on one page, we have reduced the size of the individual squares comprising it, by eliminating numerals within the diagram. Each horizontal line of the diagram is identified by a numeral to its left, and each vertical column by an alphabetic letter just above it. This makes it possible to identify any square in the diagram by using a combination of a letter and a number. Each clue, horizontal and vertical, is preceded by such a combination, representing the first square of the answer word.

Four of the clues are either exact quotations from the Bible, or paraphrases of a Bible passage, with one word of the text omitted. The parenthesized numeral in the middle of the blank representing the omitted word indicates the number of letters in that word, which is also the answer word required.

Happy browsing! The correct solution—and there really is one, you know—will be published in the next issue of WORD WAYS.

THE JOURNAL OF RECREATIONAL LINGUISTICS
The Crossword Diagram

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Horizontal Clues

Vertical Clues

WORD WAYS
A Bible Crossword

C-7. She did no work before losing her head.
M-8. Canaanite chieftain’s headquarters.
F-10. A goldsmith’s father.
O-10. Now he was threshing wheat.
S-11. City of Syria.
A-12. An apothecary’s son.
J-12. Reubenite captain.
V-12. City of Benjamin.
N-13. Probably a cave.
A-15. One of David’s heroes.
L-15. He predicted a famine.
Q-16. Introduced by the Aryans.
W-16. Captured by David.
A-17. Priest.
E-18. There is a well here.
R-18. Joshua made it an (4) forever.
W-18. Its princes were deceived.
E-20. Canaanite stronghold.
P-20. There was no (9) in this place.
A-23. Union of clans.
N-23. Family head.
U-24. “He hath... set me up for his (5).”
L-25. Family head.
R-25. Place on Zebulon border.

H-16. He returned with Ezra.
H-22. He was murdered while drunk.
I-1. An old prophetess.
J-10. City of Benjamin.
K-1. A Benjamite.
L-12. A Levite.
L-22. Town of Asher.
M-1. Governor of Samaria.
M-6. Prince.
N-12. He took a strange wife.
N-18. He taxed the world.
O-1. He grew sycamores.
O-6. King of Assyria.
P-17. Benjamite father.
Q-1. He supplied what others lacked.
Q-10. Head of a clan.
R-16. Famous for its gold.
R-22. Giant.
S-1. High priest.
U-1. Ancestor of a clan.
U-20. Leviite ancestor.
V-5. Ephraimite.
W-1. Had 1254 children.
W-16. Jesus stood by it.
X-8. They were molten.
X-9. Head of a clan.
Z-1. Calebite family.
Z-11. Levitical city.
Z-18. “Thy God will send the (6) among them.”

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