

## CHEATERS NEVER WIN

### CHEATING ISRAEL JEROBOAM RIGHTEOUS SABBATH SELL SHEPHERD SHOES

**Amos 1:1:** Amos was a \_\_\_\_\_ in Tekoa when the Lord called him to deliver a message to \_\_\_\_\_, whose king was \_\_\_\_\_.

**Amos 2:6:** God was not pleased with how some dishonest Israelites were treating the good Israelites. Dishonest businessmen would \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ if they were unable to pay for something as small as a pair of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Amos 8:4-6:** The dishonest Israelites couldn't wait for the \_\_\_\_\_ to end so they could hurry back to their stores in the marketplace and begin \_\_\_\_\_ their customers with dishonest scales and crooked deals.



1. **Cheaters never win.**

True  False

2. **Winners never cheat.**

True  False

3. **But...**

**Cheaters never win** \_\_\_\_\_ .

## SINGING OUT OF TUNE

*Florence Foster Jenkins performed a solo vocal recital at Carnegie Hall in New York City on October 25, 1944. She must have been a great singer in order to perform in Carnegie Hall ... right? Wrong! Florence Jenkins sang very "out of tune. "To perform there, Jenkins had to rent Carnegie Hall, and sell her own tickets. Most people who came to hear her sing, came to laugh at her out of tune singing!*



4. Have you ever heard someone sing out of tune? It can ruin a song and make it unbearable. Worshipping God in a way other than what He has commanded is like singing to Him out of tune...it is unbearable to God. Write what God said in Amos 5:21-23...

5. Read 1 Kings 12:28-30 and describe how Israel's worship of God became so out of tune...

**How To Get "In Tune"...**

# THE POUTING PROPHET POEM



## 1. Announcer

When Jonah spoke the words that God said,  
 "In just (3:4) \_\_\_\_\_ days all here will be dead."  
 The Ninevite (3:7) \_\_\_\_\_ made the  
 following decree:  
 "Repent, and hope God deals compassionately."

## 2. The Lord

I see that the Ninevites have turned from their ways,  
 So now I will spare them beyond 40 days.  
 I am (4:2) \_\_\_\_\_ to answer to those  
 who repent  
 And heed the words of the prophet I sent.

## 3. Announcer

But when Jonah saw how the people repented,  
 He became (4:1) \_\_\_\_\_ because he resented  
 That God would spare such a vile enemy  
 As wicked (3:7) \_\_\_\_\_. How could it be?

## 4. Jonah

I wish that my mission to Ninevah had failed,  
 Or I'd died in the (2:10) \_\_\_\_\_,  
 or to (4:2) \_\_\_\_\_ had sailed.  
 Then would these Ninevites, who don't despise,  
 Continued believing their false prophets' lies.

## 5. Announcer

The pouting prophet blurted out with a cry,  
 "Lord, take my life, for I'm ready to (4:3) \_\_\_\_\_."  
 But when God didn't do it, Jonah left in a huff  
 And went (4:5) \_\_\_\_\_ of the city to sit on a bluff.

## 6. The Vine

To comfort the prophet, the Lord sent me...  
 For I am a fast-growing (4:6) \_\_\_\_\_, you see.  
 I grew and entangled my leaves in a clump,  
 Providing some shade for old Jonah, the grump.

## 7. The (4:7) \_\_\_\_\_

But while Jonah sat in the shade of the vine,  
 I came by and ate it, which made Jonah whine.  
 He complained to the Lord  
 that the gourd vine was dead,  
 And that now there was nothing but sun on his head.

## 8. The Lord

You pouting prophet, why do you frown  
 For a plant that once grew out of the ground,  
 But feel no guilt to wish Ninevites dead?  
 You should love people, not a vine o'er your head!

## 9. Announcer

Did Jonah ever give thanks that his foes  
 All turned to God? Nobody knows.  
 But the lesson we learn from the Ninevite vine  
 Is that God is my God...but He isn't just mine!

When something **nice**  
 happens to someone I don't like.

When something **bad**  
 happens to someone I don't like.

A	C
B	D

How I  
 feel...

How I  
 should feel...

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## MUDSLINGERS

## IT WON'T HOLD A FOX



### 1. Mud of ridicule...

Nehemiah 4:1-4...Nehemiah prayed about it, then ignored it.

### 2. Mud of anger...

Nehemiah 4:6-9...Nehemiah prayed and guarded against his enemy.

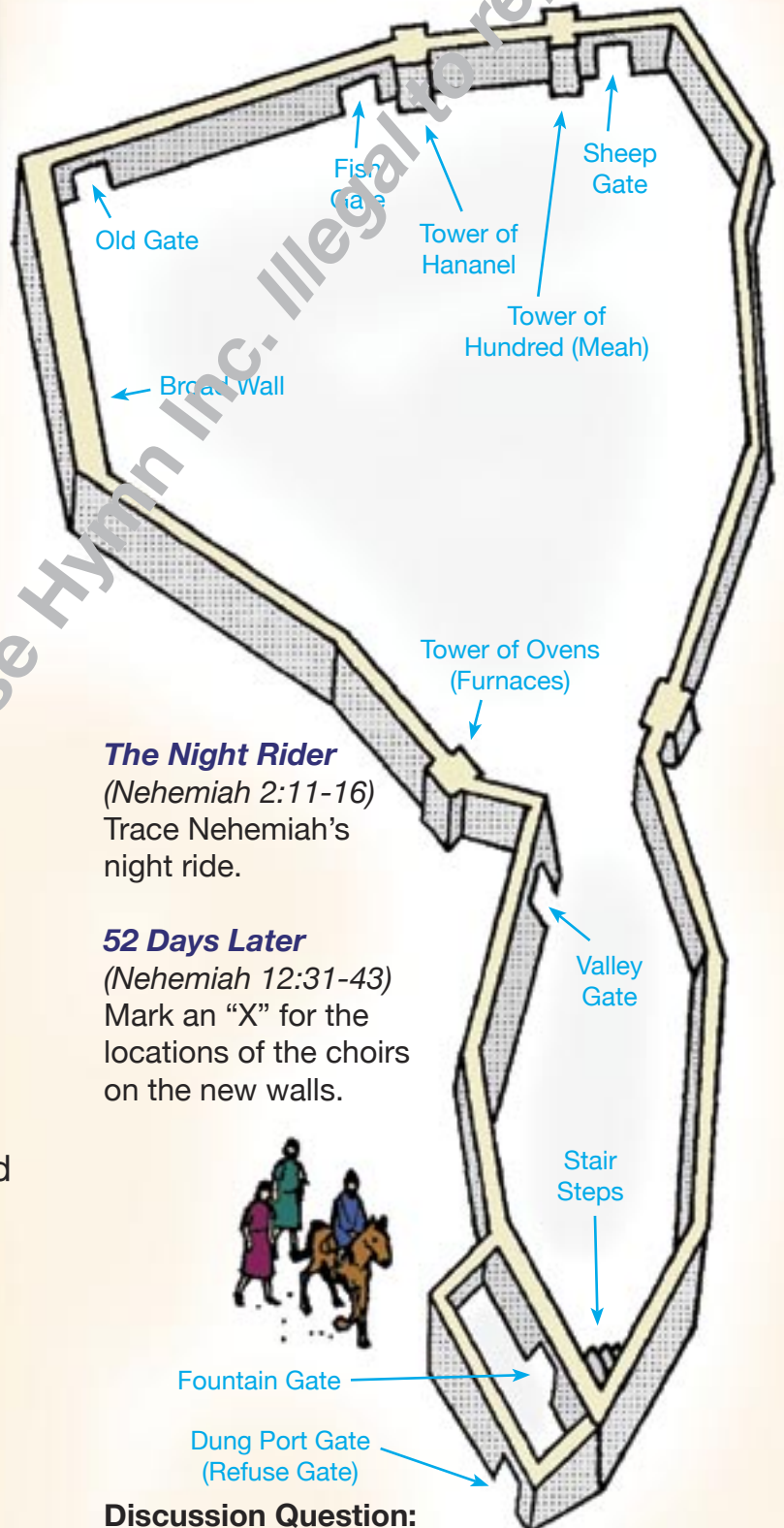
### 3. Mud of fear...

Nehemiah 4:10-17...Nehemiah armed the people as they worked.

### 4. Mud of false friendships...

Nehemiah 6:1-4...Nehemiah did not become friends with the enemy.

...but it did! Do you remember what Tobiah (the troublemaker) said about the wall that Nehemiah was rebuilding around Jerusalem (Nehemiah 4:3)? Tobiah was wrong!



### Discussion Question:

Why did Nehemiah have the choirs go on top of the new walls to sing and praise God?



## CLEAN HANDS...

### Pharisee...

A spiritual descendant of Ezra who believed that the Babylonian exile happened because Israel did not keep the law of Moses. To make sure that no one even came close to breaking the law of Moses again, the Pharisees made up new laws to help the people keep the old ones. For example, Moses' law said that the people were to keep the Sabbath holy to God. The Pharisees made up 39 new laws that could not be broken on the Sabbath, and the 39 new laws were suppose to keep the people from breaking the one old law. The Pharisees were so busy making new laws to help keep the old laws that they did not realize that God's Son, the Messiah and Giver of the law, was among them. These are some of the ways in which the Pharisees opposed Jesus...



1. *Matthew 9:10-11*

2. *Matthew 9:34*

3. *Matthew 12:1-2*

4. *Matthew 12:13-14*

5. *Matthew 12:38*

6. *Matthew 15:1-2*

7. *Matthew 19:3*

8. *Matthew 21:46*

## ...DIRTY HEART

*The Pharisees were trying to discredit and even kill Jesus. But Jesus looked them straight in the eye and told them the awful truth...the truth about themselves.*

**Awful Truth #1** (*Luke 11:37-39*)...

**Awful Truth #2** (*Luke 11:42*)...

**Awful Truth #3** (*Luke 11:43*)...

**Awful Truth #4** (*Luke 11:44*)...

**Awful Truth #5**

(*Luke 11:46*)...

**Awful Truth #6**

(*Luke 11:47-48*)...

**Awful Truth #7**

(*Luke 11:52*)...



100,000

99,926...101,113oops!...99,951...  
100,003...whoa!... 100,036....



This is what can happen...

**1. Matthew 10:14**

People may not \_\_\_\_\_ to you.

**2. Matthew 10:22**

People may \_\_\_\_\_ you.

**3. Matthew 10:23**

People may \_\_\_\_\_ you.

**4. Matthew 10:19**

People may \_\_\_\_\_ you.

**5. Matthew 10:17**

Officials may \_\_\_\_\_ you.

**6. Matthew 10:28**

They may even \_\_\_\_\_ you.

**So Do Not Be** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Matthew 10:31)

**Why not?** (Matthew 10:30)

**NO ANSWER**

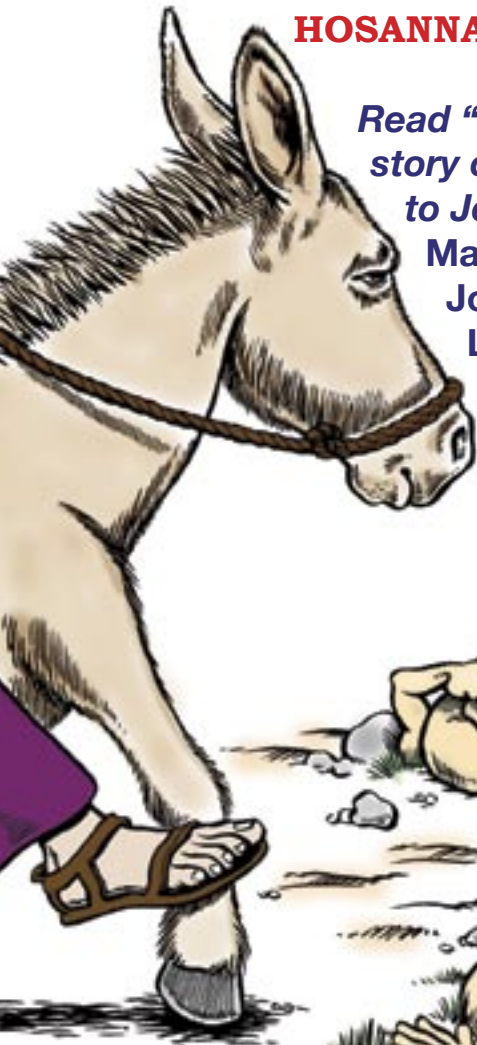
**Read Luke 9:28-36.**

7. Why were just Peter, James, and John selected to see this amazing event, and not the rest of the disciples?
8. What caused Jesus' clothes to become as bright as lightning?
9. Why did Moses and Elijah appear?
10. Why did Peter want to put up three tabernacles or tents on the mountain?
11. Why were the disciples afraid when they saw the cloud?
12. Why weren't Peter, James, and John allowed to tell what they had seen?
13. Why did God allow this to happen?

**My Question Number** \_\_\_\_\_  
**My Answer...**

**Answers To The Above Questions...**

## HOSANNA IN HARMONY



Read "in harmony" the story of Jesus coming to Jerusalem.

Mark 11:1-10

John 12:17-18

Luke 19:39-40

Matthew 21:4-5

Luke 19:41-44

Mark 11:11

1. These almost joined in the act of praising the Lord (Luke 19:39-40)...
2. A definition of praise (Psalm 34:3)...
3. The "Praise College" (Revelation 5:9-12)...
4. The crowd who shouted "Hosanna" soon were shouting (Mark 15:11-14)...

## PENNY PARTS

Read Mark 10:13-16.

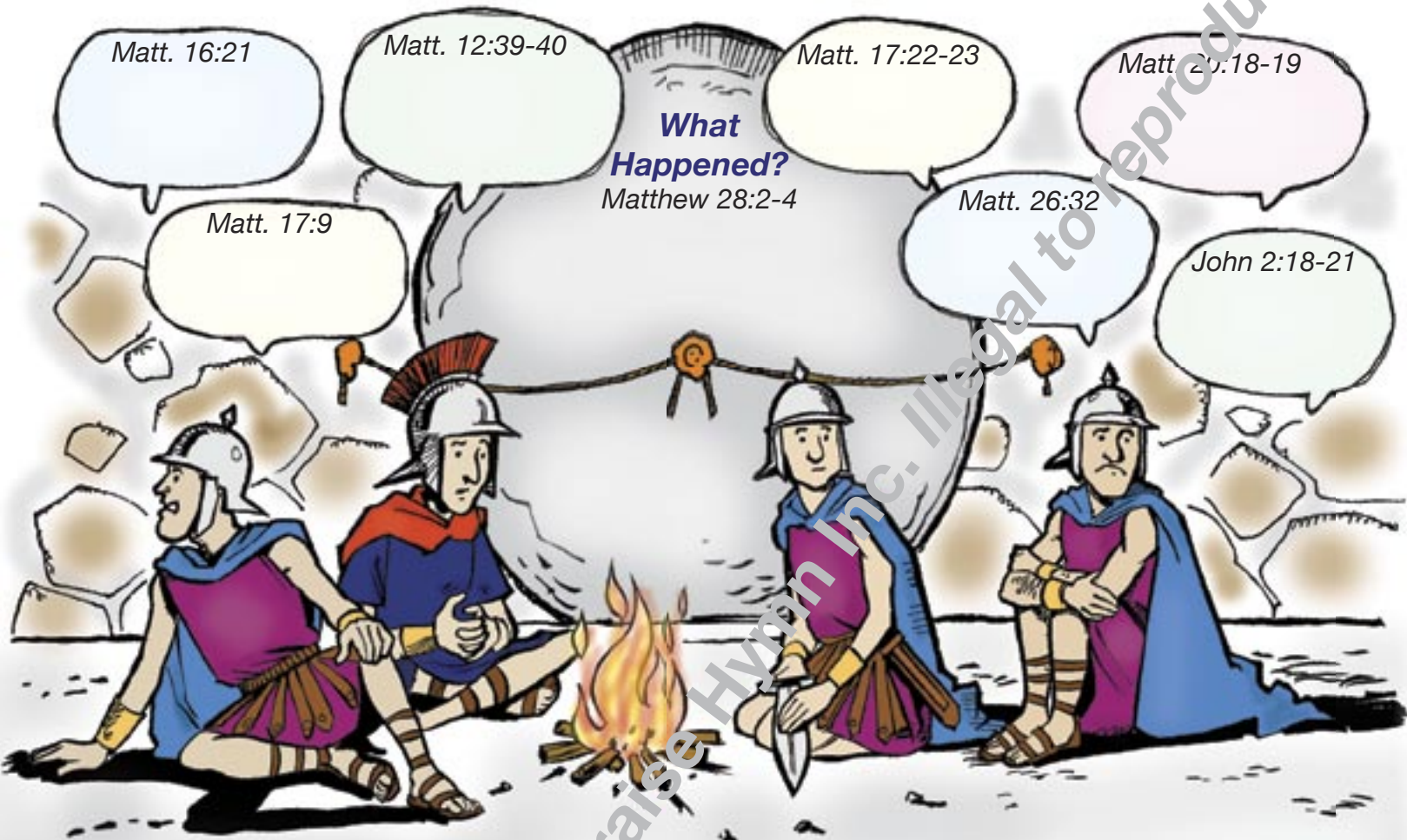
It is not how much you give to God that counts, it's how much you have left. Read Mark 12:41-44 to find out how someone who gave less than a penny gave more than anyone else.

	Had	Gave	Most
MONEY	\$100,000	\$10,000	
	\$50,000	\$100	
	\$10	\$5	
TIME	24 Hours	A Thought	
	24 Hours	10 Minutes	
	24 Hours	1 Hour	
LIFE			
			
			

What MORE Can I Give???



## EARTHQUAKE!



## GRAVE ROBBERS

*Did Jesus rise from the grave, or was Jesus' body stolen from the grave?  
Some who do not believe in the resurrection of Christ say...*

1. The disciples stole it!
2. The Jews stole it!
3. The soldiers stole it!

*These people are modern, religious grave robbers...*

## YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE

### Counting Heads...this got their attention!

1. Number of Believers Before Pentecost (Acts 1:15) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Number of Believers on Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:41) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Number of Believers Shortly After Pentecost (Acts 4:4) \_\_\_\_\_

### Peter's Message...this got their attention, too!

4. Acts 2:23b-24a: **You** \_\_\_\_\_ **but God** \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Acts 3:15: **You** \_\_\_\_\_ **but God** \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Acts 4:10: **You** \_\_\_\_\_ **but God** \_\_\_\_\_.

### One Problem...

The growing number of converts and Peter's to-the-point preaching certainly got the attention of the Jewish leaders. The high priest and elders wanted to put a stop to Peter's preaching, but there was one problem...

7. Acts 4:14-16:
8. Acts 4:21:

## COLD-BLOODED MARTYRER

The martyr's name was (6:8) \_\_\_\_\_, and he did \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

The leaders of the synagogue were not able to debate Stephen because of his (6:10) \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ by whom he spoke. The synagogue leaders found (6:13) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ who testified against him. Stephen told them that their (7:51) \_\_\_\_\_ necks and hard hearts were causing them to \_\_\_\_\_ the Holy Spirit. When the leaders of the

synagogue heard this they (7:54) \_\_\_\_\_ their teeth, covered their (7:57) \_\_\_\_\_

and angrily dragged Stephen to a spot outside the city and

(7:58) \_\_\_\_\_ him!

One of the leaders of the synagogue

who was there

for the

stoning

was a

man named

(7:58) \_\_\_\_\_.





## IT'S SIMPLE SIMON

*Simon: Saved Saint or Self-serving Sorcerer?*

**1. Saved Saint Simon**  
(Acts 8:13 and 24)

**2. Self-Serving Simon**  
(Acts 8:18-23)

**3. It's Simple, Simon**

## A-MAZE-ING TURNAROUND

Cross-Overs \_\_\_\_\_

**Enter SAUL**

**Exit PAUL**

**2. ACTS 9:3-9**

- Saw a light and heard a voice.
- Ignored it and went on.
- Answered, "Who are you, Lord?"
- His servants ran away.
- Was blinded.

**1. ACTS 9:1-2**

- Helped the disciples.
- Threatened disciples.
- Followed the Way.
- Received letters from the high priest.
- Searched for men and women to capture.

**3. ACTS 9:17-25**

- Received vision again.
- Arrested disciples.
- Began to preach about Christ.
- Almost killed.
- Escaped over the wall in a basket.

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## A TRINKET RIOT

Paul stayed in Ephesus for two years teaching and preaching about Christ. His teaching was very controversial, and once it even caused a riot. Read about it in Acts 19:23 through 20:1.

### 1. Demetrius

### 2. The Silversmiths

### 3. A mob of Ephesians

### 4. Gaius and Aristarchus

### 5. Paul during the riot

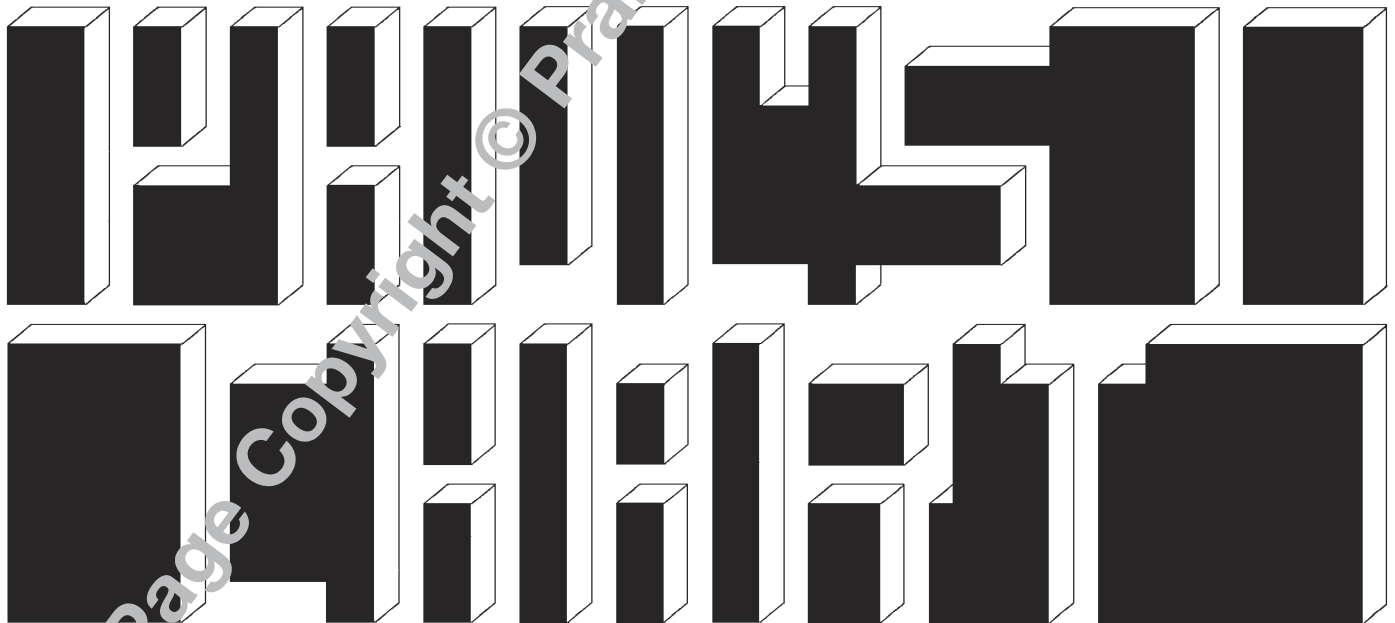
### 6. Paul's friends

### 7. Alexander

### 8. Town clerk

### 9. Paul leaving Ephesus

- A. Let me speak to the crowd. I can convince them that the silver idols and trinkets are really not gods.
- B. They have been shouting at me for 2 hours, and everytime I motion for silence, they just shout louder.
- C. Our sales are falling because Paul says that the silver statues we make are not really gods. People are starting to believe him. We must do something, or we will be out of jobs and have nothing to eat.
- D. Help! The mob is dragging us into the theater. The people are rioting!
- E. Not this time. It is too dangerous for you to confront the mob in the theater.
- F. Grab Gaius and Aristarchus, because they are followers of Paul and also teach the same thing he does.
- G. God protected us in this riot. I encourage you to remember this in the future and be faithful to God as He was faithful to you.
- H. Great is Artemis, Diana of the Ephesians.
- I. Everyone quiet! Paul and these men that you have seized have done nothing illegal. You must release them and disband, or else Rome will charge us with rioting without a cause.



### Paul Kept His Eyes On These I's

- Acts 9:5 | \_\_\_\_\_
- Acts 13:2 | \_\_\_\_\_
- Acts 13:47 | \_\_\_\_\_

## PRECARIOUS PREDICAMENT

1. Perplexing Premonition (20:23)
2. Prophetic Prediction (21:10-11)
3. Painful Persecution (21:30-32)
4. Providential Pronouncement (23:11)
5. Perilous Plot (23:12-15)
6. Preemptive Protection (23:23-24, 31)

## THEY MISSED THE BOAT

*Paul Before Felix...*

7. **Tertullus** (24:5-6)

8. **Paul** (24:14-15)

9. **Felix** (24:25)

*Paul Before Festus And Agrippa...*

10. **Paul** (26:22-23)

11. **Festus** (26:24)

12. **Paul** (26:27)

13. **Agrippa** (26:28)

14. **Paul** (26:29)







## HE CAUGHT THE BOAT

*Bible books that Paul wrote before going to Rome:*

**In the 40's A.D.**

1. LAGTAINSA = \_\_\_\_\_

**In the 50's A.D.**

2. SALHENOSTAIN = \_\_\_\_\_

3. TORNHICNAIS = \_\_\_\_\_

4. NORSAM = \_\_\_\_\_

*Bible books that Paul wrote after arriving in Rome:*

**In the 60's A.D. while in prison...**

5. HEPSSAINE = \_\_\_\_\_

6. LIPHIPNIPAS = \_\_\_\_\_

7. SLOCASISON = \_\_\_\_\_

**In the 60's A.D. while free from prison...**

8. MEHINOLP = \_\_\_\_\_

9. MOTHITY = \_\_\_\_\_

10. UTSIT = \_\_\_\_\_

## WHO ANGELS ARE

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Angels are ministering spirits sent to serve Christians.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Angels are sometimes visible, sometimes invisible.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Angels may appear in bright white clothing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. An angel's appearance is awesome.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Angels may be assigned as "guardian angels" to children.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Angels may transport dead Christians to heaven.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Angels will accompany Jesus when He returns to earth.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. There are an innumerable number of angels around God's throne.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Angels, called sons of God, were present at creation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Sometimes angels were not recognized as angels.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Angels are stronger and more powerful than men.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Some angels who rebelled against God are in prison awaiting God's judgment.

Matthew 16:27    Matthew 18:10    Matthew 28:2-3  
 Luke 16:22    Job 38:4-7    Hebrews 1:14    Hebrews 13:2  
 2 Peter 2:11    Jude 6    Revelation 5:11  
 Judges 13:3-6    2 Kings 6:16-17



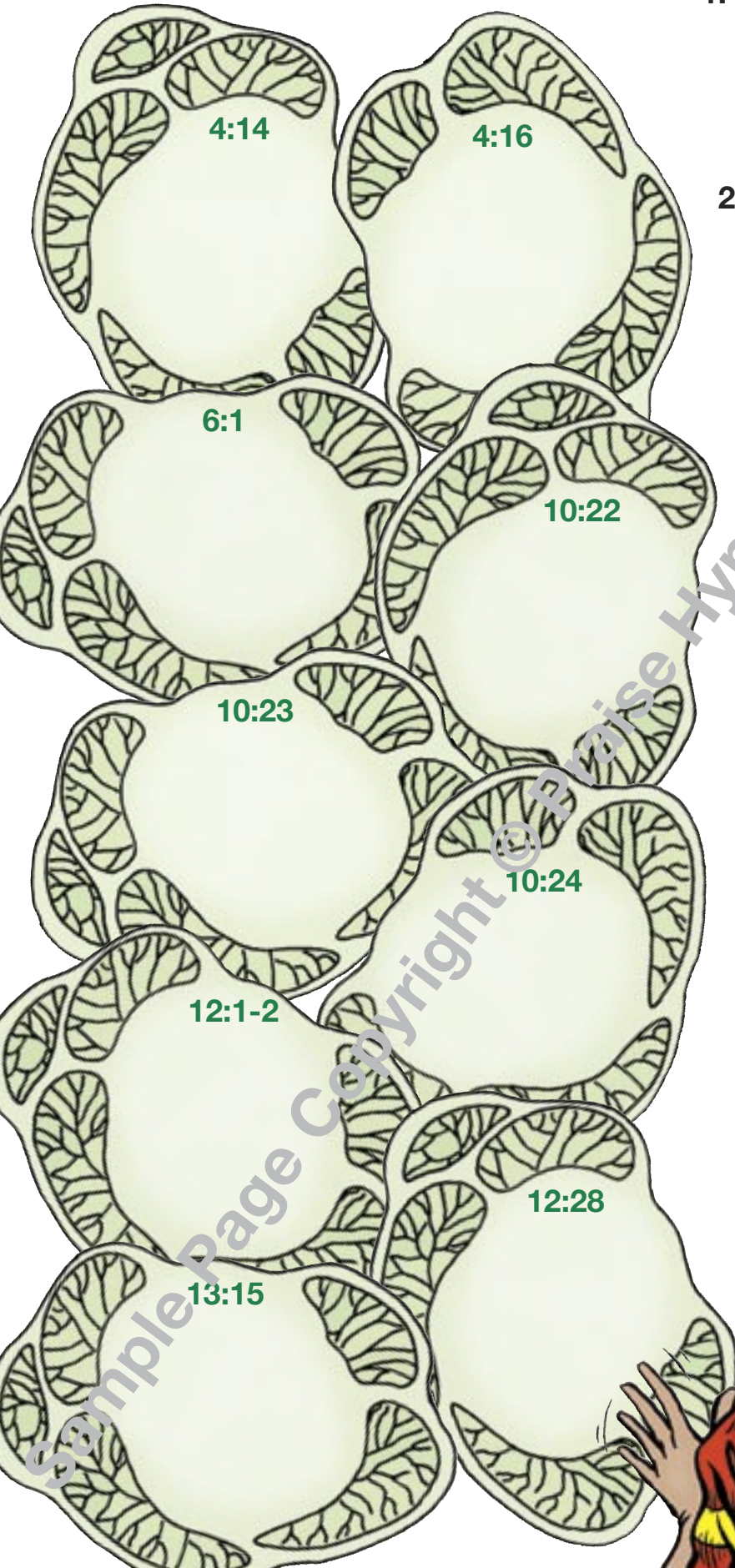
JERUSALEM

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## THE LETTUCE PATCH

*Al Tilla, The Pun says...*

"Find the lettuce in these verses."



## MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL

1. Sea Waves (1:5-7)

2. Fading Flower (1:9-11)

3. Shifting Shadows (1:17)

4. Weed Out (1:21)

5. Glass Mirrors (1:22-25)

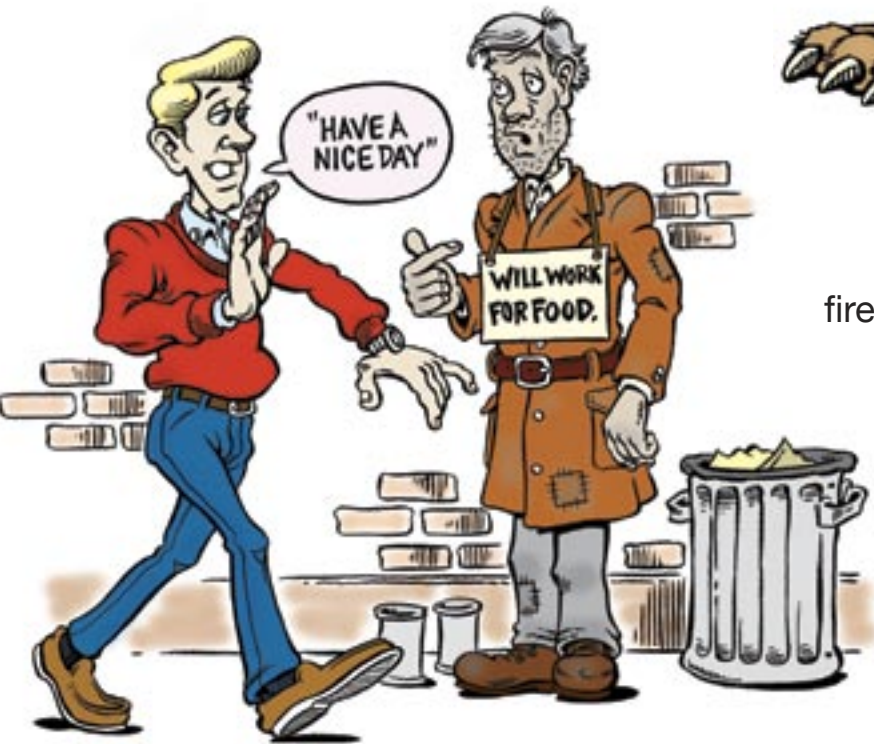




## HAVE A NICE DAY

Read James 2:14-20, and then write below how you can help these people have a nice day.

1. Angelo does not have enough lunch money today. You have extra money in your pocket.
2. Jenny's dad lost his job last month. Jenny will not have Christmas presents this year.
3. You see a poor, homeless person. You have a pocket full of change.
4. Your elderly neighbor's grass is getting tall but he is too weak to cut it.



### James' DF\* And LF\* Rules

- \_\_\_\_\_ Just say, "Have a nice day," because we are better than they are.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do help a Christian brother or sister.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Realize that everyone gets what they deserve...let them help themselves.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Give to everyone you can, even if it is a small gift.

**\*Dead Faith and Live Faith.**

## THAT WILD ANIMAL

### In Your Mouth!

5. Write at least two things that James 3:1-13 says about your tongue.



6. Give examples of how a spark from your tongue can start a "forest fire" of anger in someone else.

F.

I.

R.

E.

7. How can you control your tongue?  
(James 1:19)



## SCOFFER'S SURPRISE

1. Scoffers say (2 Peter 3:3-4)...
2. Scoffers are deliberately ignorant of the fact that (2 Peter 3:5)...
3. But we should not forget this one thing (2 Peter 3:8)...



4. The day of the Lord's coming will happen like (2 Peter 3:10)...
5. When the day of the Lord comes, this will disappear (2 Peter 3:10)...
6. ...and this will appear (2 Peter 3:13)...

## THE WARNING LABEL

