



'Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not.'

Psalm 17:5

The World's Steepest Road

There are two roads, at opposite ends of the earth, that claim to be the steepest in the world. After much measuring, Ffordd Pen Llech in the historic town of Harlech in northwest Wales, with a gradient of 37.5% was deemed to be slightly steeper than that of Baldwin St. in Dunedin, New Zealand, at only 35%.

In the Bible, there is a story about a tremendously steep road between Jerusalem and Jericho. Although these two cities are only seventeen miles apart, there is a steep descent of over half a mile between the two places. So, in Luke 10:30, when the Saviour spoke of a certain man that 'went down' from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among thieves, he meant it. However, boys and girls, this was not just a downward

journey geographically, it was also a downward journey spiritually. You see, Jerusalem was a place highly favoured and blessed by God. It was the centre of worship, the place where God's holy Temple was situated. As this man purposely walked away from the city, he would have caught his last glimpse of the Temple as he circled gently down around the Mount of Olives. Very soon the road became steeper and steeper as he walked further and further away from God. This man was going down to Jericho. Jericho was not a place of blessing; in fact, God had once destroyed it. This man was headed to a city which had the curse of God upon it. This steep road would have passed by Bethany, a place the Lord often frequented. Ah! If only he had stopped there, he might have found the Saviour, but on

he went! Only for the mercy of God in sending the Good Samaritan to rescue him, he would have lost everything.

I wonder if you are on the same spiritual downward journey. Perhaps, with some sense of adventure, you can't wait to get away from the godly influence of home. As was the case in the story, such a descent will bring you face to face with many dangers, and if you are not rescued, eternal destruction will be your end. Just as the Good Samaritan, spoken of in the story, had compassion upon our foolish traveller when he was attacked and robbed, the Saviour too is willing to show you compassion, save you and set you back on the right road - homeward and heavenward. ■

QUIZ

FIND ALL THESE BIBLE PLACES IN THE WORD SEARCH.

The letters that remain spell out a well known river.

ANSWER:

Are you 12 or under?

Send your answer, name, address and church to:
Rev Garth Wilson e: answer@fpvision.org

- Q BETHLEHEM
- Q JERUSALEM
- Q TYRE
- Q BEERSHEBA
- Q SIDON
- Q GATH
- Q HEBRON
- Q JOPPA
- Q DAMASCUS
- Q JERICO
- Q BETHEL
- Q ANTIOCH
- Q DERBE
- Q ATHENS
- Q HARAN
- Q EPHESUS
- Q UR

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C	O	H	E		R	R	T		S	D	S
I	C	E	D	J	O	P	P	A	H	O	U
R	H	L	N	O	N	A	T	H	E	N	S
E	D	A	M	A	S	C	U	S	B	A	
J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M	A		J