

DEVELOP, DEVELOPED, DEVELOPING

A superstition **developed** among the Philistines after Dagon (the idol) fell before the Ark of the Covenant, which led to people not stepping on the threshold in the temple of Dagon in Ashdod. It was still being observed when the book of 1 Samuel was written.

- **1 Samuel 5:4-5:** "And when they arose early on the morrow morning, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of the Lord; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were cut off upon the threshold; only the stump of Dagon was left to him. Therefore neither the priests of Dagon, nor any that come into Dagon's house, tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod unto this day."

David said that those who were in the womb were curiously wrought. (This refers to how people **develop** and grow in the womb).

- **Psalms 139:15:** "My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth."

We need to **develop** a love for knowledge.

- **Proverbs 2:10:** "When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;"

In the days of Solomon, people didn't know how children **developed** in the womb.

- **Ecclesiastes 11:5:** "As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all."

When we get old, we may **develop** problems with our heart.

- **Ecclesiastes 12:6:** "Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern."

When we get old, we may **develop** problems with our brain.

- **Ecclesiastes 12:6:** "Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern."

When we get old, we may **develop** problems with our spine.

- **Ecclesiastes 12:6:** "Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern."

If a woman hasn't **developed** breasts yet (if she hasn't reached sexual maturity), then she's not eligible for marriage and must be left alone.

- **Song of Solomon 8:8-9:** "We have a little sister, and she hath no breasts: what shall we do for our sister in the day when she shall be spoken for? If she be a wall, we will build upon her a palace of silver: and if she be a door, we will inclose her with boards of cedar."

In the end times, the Jews will **develop** an interest in end-times prophecy.

- **Jeremiah 30:24:** "The fierce anger of the LORD shall not return, until he hath done it, and until he have performed the intents of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it."

The mountains of Israel had **developed** a reputation for being a place of death and destruction.

- **Ezekiel 36:8, 13:** "But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come. ... Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because they say unto you, Thou land devourest up men, and hast bereaved thy nations:"

In the parable of the sower, the seeds that fell upon stony places didn't have much earth. This meant the plants that sprouted had no room for deep roots to **develop**.

- **Matthew 13:5:** "Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:"

If we don't do God's will and are unwilling to obey Him then we'll never **develop** discernment. (The people who have the ability to discern between good and evil are those who spend their time doing that which is good in God's sight.)

- **John 7:17:** "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of

myself."

In order to **develop** hope we must have experience, which in turn comes from patience, which in turn comes from the trials of this life. This means the trials of this life, if endured, produce hope.

- **Romans 5:4:** "And patience, experience; and experience, hope:"

We must fear God and be careful not to **develop** a spirit of unbelief.

- **Romans 11:20-21:** "Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee."

Christians need to **develop** understanding. We need to gain a both knowledge and wisdom.

- **1 Corinthians 14:20:** "Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men."

When Paul saw the generosity of the Macedonian church, it motivated him to see the Corinthians **develop** that same spirit of generosity.

- **2 Corinthians 8:1-2, 6:** "Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded

unto the riches of their liberality. ... Insomuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also."

It's not enough for a church to have one or two good qualities. Churches need to fully **develop** and abound in *all* good qualities.

- **2 Corinthians 8:7:** "Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also."

We need to exhort one another daily so that none of us **develop** a heart of unbelief.

- **Hebrews 3:13:** "But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin."

The way to **develop** patience is through times of trial and suffering.

- **James 1:3:** "Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience."

If we want to be perfect and have everything we need to faithfully serve God, then we need patience. The way to **develop** patience is through suffering.

- **James 1:4:** "But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

God seeks inward character, and commands Christians to pursue and **develop** it.

- **2 Peter 1:5-7:** "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity."

Christians must **develop** discernment so that we're not led astray by the wicked.

- **2 Peter 3:17:** "Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness."