

xxviii. 10,) it was the town farthest south in Palestine, as Dan was the farthest north ; so that the expression "from Dan to Beersheba," means the whole of Palestine. To the left you see Gaza, the chief city of Philistia, or the country of the Philistines. You will recollect that Sampson carried off the gates of Gaza, (see Judges xvi. 21-30.) To the west of Philistia is the Mediterranean Sea, or, as it is called in Bible, the Great Sea. To the north-east of Beersheba you find Hebron, one of the oldest cities in Palestine, and twenty miles south of Jerusalem. (For further information see Genesis xiii. 18 ; Numbers xiii. 22 ; 2 Sam. v. 1-5 ; Joshua xiv. 13.) To the east of Hebron you see the Dead Sea, or, as it is sometimes called, the Salt Sea, (see Genesis xiv. 3 ; Joshua iii. 16 ; Numbers xxxiv. 3.) The Dead Sea rolls over what were once the wicked cities of the Plain, Sodom and Gomorrah, which God destroyed with fire and brimstone on account of the sins of their inhabitants. To the east of the Dead Sea lies Moab, of which mention is often made in the Old Testament, (see Num. xxi. 13.) You will recollect that its king, Balak, wished Balaam the prophet to curse Israel, as they journied from Egypt, under Moses, to Canaan. Around Hebron lies the Hill Country of Judea, a mountainous tract, which was the birth-place of John the Baptist, and which, no doubt, included the "wilderness," where Christ, after his baptism, was tempted by the devil. Still going to the north, we see that famed little town of Bethlehem. It was the town where good King David was born ; but, above all, it was there that in a manger, Jesus Christ the Son of God became a little child and dwelt with men. (For the best description of that wonderful and interesting event, we refer you to Matt. ii. chap. and Luke, the ii. chap. To the north of Bethlehem you see Jerusalem marked. It was the chief city of Judea, and was once called Jebus. There David and Solomon and all suc-