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## The Dead Sea.



WE have heard of dead people, dead beasts, dead trees and dead flowers, but is there such a thing as a dead sea, and why do they call it dead? There is, and they call it dead because it receives all and gives nothing. This body of water---the most remarkable in the world---is at the southern end of the Jordan valley in Palestine. It is forty-seven miles long and ten miles wide, is 1,292 feet below the sea level and is in one of the hottest regions on earth. It receives five million tons of water daily into its bosom from the Jordan River but gives none out to refresh and nourish the valley below, which has become an arid desert on account of the close-fistedness of the sea. Its water is five times as salty as the ocean, is bitter to the taste, oily to the touch, and leaves a yellow stain. No fish live in its waters, no flowers bloom or fruits grow on its shores, no birds sing in its neighborhood. Its barkless drift-wood and shores are encrusted with salt. Its setting is a scene of desolation and gloom, looking as if the curse of God rested on all the region. It is a striking emblem of the selfish life. Selfishness is at the base of all sin. The world soon forgets the man who thinks only of himself. There are no selfish heroes. The gates of glory are forever closed against the man who lives for himself alone. He who would save his life must lose it, and he who would be remembered by others must forget himself. Life comes through death and true greatness through service.---Baltimore Southern Methodist.