

Tabitha: Love In Action

a. What should a Christian be known for?

- i. Loving the Lord.
 1. Cf. Mark 12:29-30, Cf. Psalm 31:23.

- ii. Serving the Lord.
 1. Cf. Josh. 24:15.

- iii. Loving others
 1. Cf. Mark 12:31, Cf. John 13:34-35, Cf. John 15:11-13.

- iv. Serving others.
 1. Cf. Gal. 5:13, Cf. Rom. 12:10, Cf. Philippians 2:2-8.

b. The Biblical example of Tabitha.

- i. Where was Tabitha from?
 1. Tabitha was from Joppa. (v. 36) “At Joppa”
 - a. Was the ancient seaport for Jerusalem.
 - b. Situated on the coast thirty-five miles northwest of the capital city and ten miles beyond Lydda.
 - c. It possesses the only natural harbor on the Mediterranean between Egypt and Ptolemais (the OT city of Acco).
 - d. Through Joppa Solomon brought cedar beams from Lebanon to build the temple. (2 Chronicles 2:16)
 - e. Jonah sailed for Tarshish from there. (Jonah 1:3)
 - f. Its rival in NT times was Caesarea, thirty miles to the north, which Herod the Great built into a magnificent new port city and provincial capital.
- ii. What else do we know about Tabitha?
 1. She was a disciple. (v. 36) “A certain disciple named Tabitha”

2. Her name could be translated Dorcas. (v. 36)

- iii. What was Tabitha known for? (v. 36)
 1. *“Full of good works and charitable deeds, which she did.”*

- iv. What happened to Tabitha? (v. 37)
 1. *“She became sick and died.”*

 2. *“They washed her and laid her in an upper room.”*

- v. Why did they send for Peter? (v. 38)
 1. Practicality: he was nearby.
 2. Position: they looked up to and respected him as an Apostle.
 3. Power: they knew he had God given power that was unique.

- vi. What was the evidence of Tabitha’s love & service to others? (v. 39)
 1. *“All the widows stood by weeping”*

 2. *“Showing the tunics and garments which Dorca had made while she was with them.”*

- vii. How did God undertake? (v. 40-41)
 1. He empowered Peter to heal her.

- viii. What impact did this all have? (v. 42)
 1. It became widely known.
 2. Many people were saved.