

First Quarter : The Patriarchs and Early Leaders of Israel

LESSON FOREWORD—Forty years of journeying in the wilderness was the penalty of Israel's lack of faith. During these forty years, all perished except Caleb and Joshua and those under twenty when they left Egypt. Now we come to a new leader and a new venture in Israel's history. The policy is now onward with God.

Lesson X.

JOSHUA, PATRIOT AND LEADER

March 9, 1919

THE LESSON PASSAGE—Joshua 1 : 1-9.

1 Now after the death of Mo'ses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Mo'ses' minister, saying,

2 Mo'ses my servant is dead ; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, *even* to the children of Israel.

3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Mo'ses.

4 From the wilderness and this Leb'anon, even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hit'tites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life : as I was with Mo'ses, so I will be with thee : I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

6 Be strong and of a good courage : for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them.

7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Mo'ses my servant commanded thee : turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth ; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein : for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

9 Have not I commanded thee ? Be strong and of good courage ; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed : for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

GOLDEN TEXT—Be strong and of a good courage.—Joshua 1 : 9.

SENIOR AND HOME DEPARTMENT TOPIC—How to Serve One's Country.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

I. JOSHUA'S PROMOTION.—1, 2. *After the death of Moses* ; who died at the age of 120 years, with undimmed eye and unabated natural force. Moses was not permitted to enter the Promised Land, but saw it from Pisgah's top. He was buried in an unknown grave. (See Deut., ch. 34.) *The servant of the Lord* ; a splendid title. Service of country begins with service of God. Moses is also described as one with whom God spake face to face, as friend with friend. "There arose not a prophet since . . . like unto Moses." *It came to pass.* Great men pass, but events move on. *Joshua.* The name

is same as Jesus, and means "Jehovah saves." *Moses' minister* ; personal attendant. Moses took him with him when he went up to Sinai to receive the Tables of Stone. Besides the training of a great companionship, he had led in battle and distinguished himself as a scout. If we would serve our land, we must qualify by

making a study of its great men and their ideals. *Arise go over* ; service involves readiness for new enterprises. Joshua must not be content with marking time in the wilderness because Moses had to do so. *This Jordan.* There is a great chasm in the earth running north and south that

isolates Palestine on the east. Through this chasm the Jordan flows into the Dead Sea.

II. JOSHUA'S PROSPECT.—3, 4. *From the wilderness* ; south of Palestine. *Lebanon* ; mountain range on the north. *Euphrates* ; to the northeast. Israel in David's reign reached this limit. *Hittites* ; situated in region of Euphrates. *The Great Sea* ; the Mediterranean on the west.

III. JOSHUA'S POWER.—5-9. *No man able to stand.* Obeying God's command, Joshua will be invincible. Service and trust must go together. *Do according to all the law.* Joshua must look back as well as forward. The new



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