

Naaman was cleansed he could only be cleansed in Jordan, for Jordan meant death; he had to go down into death to be clean. And so the Israelites crossing Jordan typified death and resurrection.

They had not "passed that way before." True, but the ark went before them, and Christ, our ark, goes before us, and we are to follow Him. We are ignorant, and only by following Him can we know the way. Many of the Israelites had died in the wilderness; through unbelief, they refused to enter in. "Let us fear lest a promise being left us, we should seem to come short of it." Oh, it is a sad thing to die in the wilderness, when by faith we can enter the promised land. All of these had been born in the wilderness, or were very young when they left Egypt, save Caleb and Joshua; and now as they approached Jordan, which at that time overflowed its banks, the moment the feet of the priests who bare the ark touched the water, it rose up upon an heap on both sides, and they passed over on dry ground. Our great High Priest has gone down into the waters of death before us, His feet have touched the waters so that we can pass over on dry land. Death has no terror for us now, beloved Christian; the sting is taken from it.

Then after crossing Jordan the children of Israel came up against Jericho; but what could they do against a city walled up to Heaven. No battering rams or engines of warfare. Well, on the first day they simply walked round the city *once*. That was not much to do, but it was exactly what God told them to do, and it was enough. And so with us, if we but do His will, however small or humble it may be, it will be all right. But on the seventh day, they walked round *seven times* and kept silence until the last time, when Joshua said "shout"! It was a shout of praise, and it meant that they all trusted, and by this praise they glorified God, and the walls of Jericho fell down at that shout, and I tell you the walls of our Jericho *must* fall before the shout of praise. No matter how fierce the temptation, God is able to deliver. Alleluia. Praise is the grandest secret of deliverance from sin we can possibly have. Our Lord came to destroy the works of the devil, and he is a conquered foe. Claim the victory and it is yours. Sin is of the devil; believe him to be a conquered foe, and give praise for the victory. Don't give the least satisfaction to the old nature by yielding to any known sin, and the next time you are tempted, *shout*, for the Lord hath given you the victory.

In 2 Chron, 20: 22, we read, "when they began to sing and to