

The Teachers Monthly

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A Prayer

O Thou Who makest souls to shine
With light from brighter worlds above,
And droppest glistening dew divine
On all who seek a Saviour's love ;

Do Thou Thy benediction give
On all who teach, on all who learn,
That so Thy church may holier live,
And every lamp more brightly burn.

Give those that teach pure hearts and wise,
Faith, hope, and love, all warmed by prayer :
Themselves first training for the skies,
Their best will raise their people there.

Give those that learn the willing ear,
The spirit meek, the guileless mind ;
Such gifts will make the lowliest here
Far better than a kingdom find.

God in Us and For Us

"The wall fell down flat,"—so runs the old story of the capture of Jericho. Of course it fell down. Nothing else was possible before an attacking force under such a leader as Israel's and moved by such a spirit as theirs. Their faith had been tested and proved by that six days' compassing of the city walls, day after day, waiting for God to work. They had shown a splendid capacity for implicit and unquestioning obedience to their general, and, by their patient silence during their week of marching, had revealed a power of self-control which had in it the promise of victory. We do not know the nature of the external force by which God at last threw down the walls of the doomed city before His people ; but it could not have been more wonderful than these qualities which He produced in them.

The conditions of victory in God's cause are essentially the same in all ages. Faith

and obedience and self-mastery are always sure to conquer. There is no Jericho wall of evil that will not go down before the onward march of those who trust unflinchingly in God's power and faithfulness, who stand ready to obey Him promptly and wholly and who have learned the great art of discipline. When God has thus wrought in us He is sure to do some great thing for us.

"Lost"

By Rev. J. H. Turnbull, M.A.

We use the word "lost" in various ways, and it may be interesting to ask in what sense Jesus employs it.

We think of the vessel out at sea, of the tempest, of the shipwreck, of the sailors struggling in the stormy waters. In our newspapers we read the sad tale of the "lost." Or we think of a traveler out on our great western prairie who has missed his way. Gradually uncertainty overtakes him, until at length he confesses to himself, "I am lost." Yet he is not lost as the sailor who went down to a watery grave. He has lived to tell the story of his rescue, of how he found the way or saw the light which meant life to him.

Jesus on one occasion stated His mission in these words, "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." What do we understand Him to mean? No formal explanation is offered, but an illuminating story is told. In the city of Jericho there lived a certain publican, small of body and small of soul, grasping, avaricious, oppressive. In some manner his curiosity about Jesus had been aroused and he determined to see Him when He visited the town,—and he succeeded, too, quite beyond his expectations. Not only did he see Him, but he had the privilege