

Lesson X.

THE FALL OF JERICO

December 7, 1913

Joshua 6 : 8-11, 14-20. Study Joshua 5 : 10 to 6 : 27—Memory Verse, 20.

Golden Text—All things are possible to him that believeth.—Mark 9 : 23.

8 And it came to pass, when Josh'ua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the Lord, and blew with the trumpets : and the ark of the covenant of the Lord followed them.

9 And the armed men went before the priests that blew with the trumpets, and the rereward came after the ark, the priests going on, and blowing with the trumpets.

10 And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout ; then shall ye shout.

11 So the ark of the Lord compassed the city, going about it once : and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.

14 And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp : so they did six days.

15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times : only on that day they compassed the city seven times.

16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Josh'ua said unto the people, Shout ; for the Lord hath given you the city.

17 And the city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein, to the Lord : only Ra'hah the harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.

18 And ye, in any wise keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.

19 But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated unto the Lord : they shall come into the treasury of the Lord.

20 So the people shouted when the priests blew with trumpets : and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The first city that the children of Israel came to in the land of Canaan was called Jericho. It had a high, strong wall built all round it, but the Israelites were not afraid to fight against the city, for God had promised to be with them to help them.

Then the Lord spoke to Joshua and told him the strange way in which the Israelites were to take the city. They were to march round the walls once every day for six days, and the priests were to carry the ark of the Lord with them. Seven priests were to go before the ark blowing upon trumpets. On the seventh day the Israelites were to march round Jericho seven times and the priests were still to blow their trumpets. Then, when the people heard them blow a long blast, they were to give a great shout and the walls of the city would tumble down and they could then go in and take possession of it.

So Joshua called the people together and told them God's commands. So, on the morning of the first day, the procession

started round the city. A company of armed men led the way. Next came the seven priests blowing upon their trumpets. After these, followed the priests carrying the ark, and last came another company of men. And so the great procession marched round the city of Jericho—very quietly—for Joshua had said they were not to speak or make any noise till he told them to do so. Afterwards Joshua brought them back to their tents again.

The next day the people and the priests once more walked round Jericho and came quietly home again, and this they did for six days. But on the seventh day, they rose up very early in the morning, for they were to go round the city this day seven times.

When they had finished marching round for the seventh time, Joshua said to the people : "Now, when the priests blow with the trumpets, shout, because God has given you the city. You must destroy everything in it, keeping nothing for yourselves ; but