

Lesson VII.

JOURNEYING TOWARD CANAAN

August 17, 1902

Numbers 10: 11-13, 29-36. Commit to memory vs. 33, 34. Read Num. chs. 11, 12.

11 And it came to pass on the twentieth day of the second month, in the second year, that the cloud was taken up from off the tabernacle of the testimony.

12 And the children of Israel took their journeys out of the wilderness of Sinai; and the cloud rested in the wilderness of Paran.

13 And they first took their journey according to the commandment of the Lord by the hand of Moses.

29 And Moses said unto Hobab, the son of Raguel the Midianite, Moses' father in law, We are journeying unto the place of which the Lord said, I will give it you: come thou with us, and we will do thee good: for the Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel.

30 And he said unto him, I will not go; but I will depart to mine own land, and to my kindred.

31 And he said, Leave us not, I pray thee; foras-

Revised Version—1 Over; 2 Set forward according to; 3 Abode; 4 Reuel; 5 Shall; 6 Good soever; 7 Set forward; 8 Omit in the; 9 Seek out; 10 Upon; 11 Set forward from; 12 Ten thousands of the thousands.

GOLDEN TEXT

Ps. 31: 3. Forthynamessake lead me and guide me.
DAILY READINGS

M. — Num. 10: 11-13 and } Journeying toward Canaan.

29-36.

T. — Num. 9: 15-23.

W. — Gen. 12: 1-9.

Th. — Neh. 9: 7-19.

F. — Isa. 63: 7-14.

S. — Psalm 107: 1-15.

S. — Psalm 23.

The cloud and fire.

God's promise.

God's mercy remembered.

Loving kindness.

The Divine Leader.

My Leader.

CATECHISM.

Q. 35. What is sanctification?

A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

EXPOSITION

Connecting Links—Preparations have now been completely made for starting the march to Canaan. A census has been taken (ch. 1: 2), the order of the camp arranged (ch. 2), duties assigned to those in charge of the sacred tent (ch. 4), and a few more laws given. All is ready and the march is about to begin.

I. A Wilderness Journey, 11-13.

Vs. 11-13. *On the twentieth day, etc.* The start is made seven weeks after the erection of the tabernacle, Ex. 40: 1. *The commandment of the Lord by the hand of Moses.* The journey is commenced in accordance with the will of God, as indicated by the lifting of the cloud (ch. 9: 17), and also in accordance with His express command, which came to them through Moses (v. 13). This combination of divine agency with and through human agency, is characteristic of the whole story of the Exodus, and is again suggested by verses 29 to 36. The people do not march at random, but in an orderly

much as thou knowest how we are to encamp in the wilderness, and thou mayest be to us instead of eyes.

32 And it shall be, if thou go with us, yea, it shall be, that what goodness the Lord shall do unto us, the same will we do unto thee.

33 And they departed from the mount of the Lord three days' journey: and the ark of the covenant of the Lord went before them in the three days' journey, to search out a resting place for them.

34 And the cloud of the Lord was upon them by day, when they went out of the camp.

35 And it came to pass, when the ark set forward, that Moses said, Rise up, Lord, and let thine enemies be scattered; and let them that hate thee flee before thee.

36 And when it rested, he said, Return, O Lord, unto the 12 thousands of Israel.

TIME AND PLACE

The start was made from Sinai on the twentieth day of the second month of the second year after leaving Egypt, probably about the middle of May, B.C. 1490. The course of the journey lay northward from the foot of Mount Sinai between the two arms of the Red Sea, into the wilderness of Paran, the great barren region between Sinai and Canaan.

LESSON PLAN

I. A Wilderness Journey, 11-13.

Following the lead of the moving cloud.

II. A Wilderness Guide, 29-35.

Hobab, who first refused, and then accepted, the invitation of Moses to go with them.

III. Wilderness Songs, 34-36.

For morning and evening, during the march.

LESSON HYMNS

Book of Praise, 63; 47 (Ps. Sel.); 318; 152; 583; 585.

fashion, vs. 14-28. God is a God of order, and the march of His people should be orderly, too.

II. A Wilderness Guide, 29-33.

V. 29. *Hobab, the son of Raguel.* In Ex. 2: 18, Reuel; in Ex. 3: 1, Jethro. Some believe that Hobab was his name, and Jethro a title, meaning "prefect." In any case, we know from this passage and from Ex. 18 that Moses' father-in-law had spent part of this momentous time with him. *We are journeying.* The Hebrew word for "journeying" means "pulling up the tent-pegs." *The place of which the Lord said, I will give it you.* Mark the strong faith of Moses and the religious view he takes of the march; for he speaks of Canaan not directly, but as the land which God had promised. *The Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel.* He is quite sure that God has good in store for them: it is His purpose and promise; and he is anxious that his father-in-law should share that good by joining Jehovah's chosen