

advance of God's kingdom in the world, some new truth revealed or apprehended, some victory of light over darkness, of righteousness over sin, of Christ over Satan. Every partial victory is an occasion for rejoicing and a presage and earnest of the final and crowning success.

*Only Rahab shall live, she and all that are with her in the house*, v. 17. God often shows mercy to a whole household for the sake of one faithful member. Even the humblest and unworthiest of those who cast in their lot with His people and aid in His work,

even to so slight an extent as the gift of a cup of cold water, shall in no wise lose their reward.

*Every man straight before him*, v. 20. In the great circuit of the hosts of evil by the forces of righteousness God places each man in the circumstances in life which determine his individual duty as to where he must resist and what he is bound to attack. What God requires is that every man so placed shall go straight before him, shall do the duty that is plainest and lies nearest to him and to do it with his might.

### POINTS AND PARAGRAPHS

Diligence and piety are a good combination. v. 12.

Confidence in God is better than trust in an army. v. 13.

Waiting has its place in God's plan as well as working. v. 14.

Divine delays are a test of faith, not a sign of failure. v. 15.

Religion has a place for enthusiasm. v. 16.

Learn how one can save a household. v. 17.

The danger of the successful is self-indulgence. v. 18.

Our possessions as well as ourselves belong to God. v. 19.

The believing church is the victorious church. v. 20.

Every carnal heart is a Jericho shut up; God sits down before it and displays mercy and judgment in the sight thereof; it hardens itself in a wilful security and saith 'Aha! I shall never be moved.' Doubtless these inhabitants of Jericho made themselves merry with this sight. Wicked men think God is just when He is preparing for their judgment—Bishop Hall.

"When Carey on his shoemaker's stool contemplated the evangelization of India, there was as great a gulf between the end and the apparent means as when the priests blew their rams' horns round the walls of Jericho. But Carey felt it to be a divine command, and Joshua-like set himself to obey it, leaving to God from whom it came to fur-

nish power by which the work was to be done."

So let it be. If God's own might  
Wegird us for the coming fight,  
And strong in Him whose cause is ours  
In conflict with unholy powers,  
We grasp the weapons He has given  
The Light and Truth and Love of Heaven.

The man of power is the quiet man who never fusses or fumes, but reserves his voice for the decisive moment. The mother who has influence in the home is the soft-voiced, gentle-mannered, and self-contained. The potent man is the quiet man with reserve force.

It is the prerogative of faith to believe that the same law of Providence is ever in operation and that the rapidity with which some great drama is to be wound up may be as striking as the slowness of its movement was trying in the earlier stages. We cannot tell but before a year ends some grand purpose of Providence shall be accomplished, the death-blow given to some system of force or of fraud that has scourged the earth for centuries, or some great prophetic cycle completed for which Simeons and Annas have been watching. God hasten the day when on every side truth shall finally triumph over error, good over evil, peace over strife, love over selfishness and order over confusion; and when from every section of God's great but scattered family the shout shall go up "Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth."—Blaikie.

And at the end of time, when our Lord