

Responsive Review Service for the Fourth Quarter, 1888.

BY G. N. COMPTON.

(NOTE TO THE SUPERINTENDENT.—Make the Review a great occasion. Create expectancy. Announce it, talk about it, prepare for it, and invite every body. Intersperse this service with suitable singing; arrange an opening and closing exercise. Get the morning or evening church hour if you can. Have the responses made by selected scholars, classes, or school. Be enthusiastic.)

LESSON I.

Superintendent. We are met to review the lessons for the quarter now ending. They began just after the death of Israel's great leader, "Moses, the servant of the Lord." Such had been his life and character that it was no small honor and responsibility to become his successor. Will the school announce the title of the first lesson, giving the name of this chosen one?

School. The Commission of Joshua.

Supt. Who was Joshua?

Answer. A descendant of Joseph—a great general, and Moses's minister.

Supt. What was he commissioned to do?

Ans. 1. To lead the Israelites across the Jordan. 2. To possess the land of promise by conquest.

Supt. What was God's promise to him?

Ans. As he had been with Moses, so would he be with him.

Supt. State three things in this lesson to be remembered.

Ans. 1. "God buries his workman, but carries on his work." 2. If we are faithful, there will come ever-increasing duties and responsibilities. 3. To the loyal and obedient the victory is assured.

Supt. Let us all repeat the Golden Text.

School. "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness."

LESSON II.

Supt. The second lesson relates the crossing of the river Jordan. What was first done?

Ans. They made preparation for it.

Supt. What was the order of march?

Ans. The priests were to lead, bearing the ark.

Supt. The river was full and rapid, and there was no bridge, no boats; how, then, were they to cross over?

Ans. God opened a dry way through the swollen waters.

Supt. What is there in this lesson for us?

Ans. 1. Consecration of ourselves to God. 2. The leaders in God's work should be worthy to be followed. 3. Faith and obedience overcome what seem to be insurmountable difficulties.

Supt. What is the Golden Text?

School. "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee."

LESSON III.

Supt. The third lesson brings us to their encampment after crossing the river. What did they do?

Ans. Twelve chosen men took each a stone from the river's bed, carried them to camp, and erected a memorial pillar.

Supt. For what purpose was this done?

Ans. 1. To remind them, and their children, of God's mercy and power. 2. To teach "all the people of the earth the hand of the Lord, that it is mighty."

Supt. Does this lesson teach us any practical truths?

Ans. Yes. 1. It is well to remember God's special care and dealings. 2. We should diligently teach these things to the children. 3. We have many memorial days, and memorial churches, etc., but our greatest memorial is the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Supt. Repeat the Golden Text.

School. "Then ye shall let your children know, saying, Israel came over this Jordan on dry land."

LESSON IV.

Supt. The fourth lesson gives an account of the first engagement with their enemies. What is the title?

Ans. The fall of Jericho.

Supt. How was it brought about?

Ans. By the power of God, after the people did as they were commanded.

Supt. What was done with the spoil?

Ans. It was put into the treasury of the Lord.

Supt. Why was Jericho destroyed?

Ans. 1. Because their cup of sin was full. 2. Because it was the key to the whole country, and must needs be destroyed, to spread fear among all the inhabitants of the land.

Supt. What are we taught in this lesson?

Ans. 1. Christians must assault the works of evil. 2. However strongly fortified, the evil will be destroyed, if Christians move in concord and trust in the Lord. 3. All we have must be consecrated to God.

Supt. How does the Golden Text explain the lesson?

School. "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days."

LESSON V.

Supt. The fifth lesson casts a cloud across the clear sky. What is the title?

Ans. The defeat at Ai.

Supt. What was the cause of it?

Ans. One of the chief men of Israel had stolen money and clothing at Jericho, and defiled all the people by his sin, and God permitted the defeat as a punishment.

Supt. What effect had the defeat?

Ans. 1. The people were humiliated. 2. "Joshua rent his clothes, and fell upon his face.... he and the elders of Israel."

Supt. May we not profit by this lesson?

Ans. Yes; our sin will find us out, and be a curse to us and those about us.

Supt. What wholesome advice is given in the Golden Text?

School. "Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness."

LESSON VI.

Supt. The sixth lesson is about a former companion of Joshua. What is the title of the lesson?

Ans. Caleb's inheritance.

Supt. What had made Caleb illustrious?

Ans. 1. He was one of the chosen spies sent into Canaan. 2. He brought back a good report, and urged the people of Israel to go up at once and possess the land, showing his courage and faith.

Supt. At this time God made him a promise, because he wholly followed him, and now, after forty-five years, how was it fulfilled?

Ans. Joshua was dividing the land among the tribes, and gave unto Caleb Hebron for an inheritance, "according to God's promise."

Supt. How did he propose to take possession?

Ans. By God's help he would drive out his enemies.

Supt. State two practical lessons.

Ans. 1. God never forgets his promises. 2. Personal effort with God's blessing will insure success.

Supt. Does not the Golden Text teach this?

School. "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed."

LESSON VII.

Supt. The title of the seventh lesson is a beautiful motto.

School. "Helping One Another."