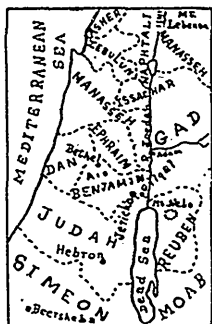


did in the past. **Not fail...nor forsake.** God's help is an ever flowing fountain, always sufficient and always at hand. **Be strong,** etc. Joshua must put all his energy and boldness into his work. **Do according to all the law;** God's marching orders for Joshua and for all the people. **This book.** Moses had left the law in writing. **Not...out of thy mouth.** He was to read it and talk about it. **Meditate;** study. **Do;** obey its commands. **Prosperous...** good success; the sure reward of obedience.

**III. WORK BEGUN.—10, 11. Commanded the officers;** who conveyed the general's orders in time of war. **Prepare you victuals (food).** This was necessary, since the manna was soon to cease, ch. 5: 12. **Within three days.** The crossing of the Jordan took place on the 10th day of the month, ch. 4: 19. Joshua, therefore, gave his orders to his officers on the 7th, and the expedition of the spies (ch. 2) occupied from the 5th to the 8th. The message to the eastern tribes (vs. 12, 13) was sent during the same interval.

#### THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



The map shows by dotted lines the territory allotted to each tribe in the Promised Land. The boundaries of the whole land are given in v. 4.

To the south lay the Wilderness, in which Israel had wandered during forty years, on their way from Egypt to Canaan. At the north was the snow-clad mountain range of Lebanon, visible from the camp on the plains of Moab. Eastward the land was to

extend to the Euphrates. It would thus include the portion of northern Palestine held by the Hittites, then a very powerful nation. The western boundary was to be the Mediterranean.

#### AN ORIENTAL SIDELIGHT

In very early times, books were written upon leather, for which parchment was substituted at a later date, and in the form of a long roll, with writing on one or both of its sides. Such a roll has been

found in Egypt dating as far back as B.C. 2000. It is practically certain that leather was used for the books of the Old Testament.

#### LESSON QUESTIONS

Of what does the book of Joshua tell? In what relation had Joshua stood to Moses? For how long?

1-4 What was Moses' special title? Where is his faithfulness praised? Which parable of our Lord teaches that promotion in God's service depends on faithfulness? (Matt. 25: 14-30.) Who succeeded Moses? What command was given to him? What must Israel do in order to possess Canaan? What were to be their boundaries?

5-9 Why was Joshua invincible? Show that God is unchangeable. (Ps. 102: 25-27.) In what spirit must Joshua enter upon his work? Where was he to find direction for his conduct? What promise was made to him?

10, 11 How were Joshua's commands made known to the people? What were they told to do? Why was this necessary?

#### FOR DISCUSSION

1. Joshua's qualifications for leadership.
2. God's Word as a guide in the ordinary affairs of life.

#### A LESSON FOR LIFE

How the spirited steed bounds forward at the least touch of the spur! Difficulties are spurs to the brave and energetic spirit. The harder the task, the heavier the responsibility, the more resolutely does the noble soul brace itself to carry these through. It counts as the best gift of God some stiff bit of work to be done, some stern battle to be fought.

Prove from Scripture—That Jesus gives sufficient strength.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 73. Which is the eighth commandment? A. The eighth commandment is, Thou shalt not steal.

The Question on Missions—(Fourth Quarter, FOREIGN MISSIONS IN CANADA—INDIAN.) 1. Amongst what Indians have we missions? Amongst the Saulteaux of the Lake of the Woods, and the Ahts of Vancouver Island, who live by hunting and fishing, and amongst the Crees, Sioux and Assiniboines of the prairies, who used to hunt buffalo, but now farm and do a little hunting.

#### FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. To what work was Joshua called? .....

2. How was he encouraged? .....

3. What use was he to make of God's law? .....