

No. 219, *Dominion Hymnal.*

Beyond life's raging fever,
Beyond life's troubled dream,
Beyond death's surging river,
Beyond that sullen stream—
The saints shall dwell in glory,
In beauty fading not;
O, pilgrim, are you praying
That this may be your lot?

Beyond this land of sighing,
Where countless tears are shed;
Beyond the sick and dying,
Beyond the mouldering dead—

Beyond this scene of trial,
Where heart and flesh do fail;
Beyond the darkening shadows,
Beyond the gloomy vale.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. **The Preparation**, v. 5, 6. Where were the Israelites at this time? What stood in the way of their entering Canaan? Why was the crossing especially difficult at that season? ver. 15. What preparation were the people to make? What was done by the priests? What was the ark? Why was it before the people? Who is to us as this ark was to Israel?

2. **The Promise**, v. 7-13. What was God's promise to Joshua, and how was it fulfilled? What did Joshua promise to the people? ver. 10. How was this an encouragement to them? By what names is God called in verse 9-11? What promise was given in verse 13? How would this show God's power? What better promise is given to us in the GOLDEN TEXT?

3. **The Procession**, v. 14-17. What was the order of the procession? What took place at the brink of the river? How far away from the Israelites did the waters stand up? [ANS. Not less than twenty miles.] What did the people do? What was carried over last of all? chap. 4, 10, 11. Where did this crossing take place? What similar event in Israelite history can you name? Exod. 14, 29; 2 Kings 2, 8.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where does this lesson teach—

1. That God is with his people?
2. That God can do wonders for his people?
3. That God's people need not fear to go where God leads them?

The Lesson Catechism.—(For the entire school). 1. What river lay between the Israelites and Canaan? The river Jordan. 2. By what were the Israelites led to the river? By the ark of God. 3. What took place when the priests brought the ark to the edge of the river? The waters were cut off. 4. How did Israel pass over the river? On dry ground.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—God's care for his people.

QUESTIONS FOR SENIOR STUDENTS.

1. **The Preparation**, v. 5, 6. What personal preparation did Joshua require of the people? What reason is given for this requirement? What is an essential preparation for

every Christian duty? What direction was given in reference to the ark? Why was the ark to go first?

2. **The Promise**, v. 7-13. What was the promise to Joshua? Why was this promise given? What command was given to the priests bearing the ark? Of what was this ark the symbol? Of what was it to be the token at this time? What special selection was to be made by Joshua? For what purpose were they chosen? Josh. 4, 2.

3. **The Procession**, v. 14-17. What occurred as the procession entered the Jordan? What did the presence of the ark insure? How long did it remain in the bed of the Jordan? What similar miracle had the Lord wrought for his people? Exod. 14, 29.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Where in this lesson do we learn—

1. That the service of God requires personal consecration?
2. That God is magnified in faithful service?
3. That God gives the promise of his presence in duty?
4. That where God leads us into service, he provides a way through it?

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

What lay between the Israelites and Canaan? The river Jordan. What did Joshua first command the priests? To take up the ark of the covenant. Where were they to carry it? To the edge of the river. What were they then to do? To stand still. What did Joshua say they should see? That the living God was among them. What happened when the priests reached the river? The waters divided. What was made for the Israelites? A dry path in the bed of the river. What did the people do? They passed over to the other side of Jordan. Who followed them? The priests with the ark of the covenant. What then happened? The waters rolled together again. Why did God work this miracle? To honour Joshua's faith. What did this show the people? That God was with Joshua as he had been with Moses. Why did God want the people to honour Joshua? He was their chosen leader. What do we learn from this lesson? That God's word is strong and sure. Repeat GOLDEN TEXT.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

God can make a path through any river of trouble. Christ is the Ark to go before his people. God always honours the faith that obeys. "Have faith in God."

ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE.

God and his People.

I. THE PEOPLE'S GOD.

1. **His Presence**. "Living God... among you," v. 10.
"Tremble.... at the presence of the Lord." Psa. 114, 7, 8.
"God is in the midst of her." Psa. 46, 5.