

Hints for Home Study.

1. Study carefully the history of the ark of the covenant.
2. See if any mention of it can be found in the book of Revelation.
3. Is there any evidence of the time of year when this occurred?
4. Learn all you can of the Jordan.
5. What evidences of the truthfulness of this narrative may be discovered in the text itself?
6. Learn the facts of the lesson and the order of the narrative very thoroughly.

QUESTIONS FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOLARS.**1. The Ark.**

- What did Joshua bid the people to do?
- What did he say the Lord would do?
- What command did he give to the priests?
- What did the Lord that day begin to do?
- What direction was Joshua to give to those who bore the ark?

- For what purpose did he call the people together?
- What did he say about "the living God"?
- What enemies would be driven out before Israel?
- What evidence of this would the ark afford?

2. The River.

- What representatives of the people bidden to select?
- What burden were the priests to bear?
- What would happen when the priests came to the river?

- At what season of the year was the crossing made?
- What is said of the width of the Jordan at harvest time?
- What happened the waters above the place of crossing?

- What is said of the waters below?
- At what point did the crossing occur?
- Where did the priests take their position?
- How long did they remain in the bed of the river?
- What promise of safety does God give to all his people? (Golden Text.)

Teachings of the Lesson.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. That God honors those whom he calls to his service?
2. That he will deliver all who trust in him?
3. That his people need fear no danger where he leads?

Hints for Home Study.

Learn to what family of the tribe of Levi the care of the ark was committed.
Learn what measures Joshua had taken to spy out this land before he entered it.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

Whom did Joshua send across to Jericho? **Two men, as spies.**

What report did they bring? **That the Canaanites were afraid of the Israelites.**

Who had put fear into their hearts? **The Lord.**
What did Joshua and all the people then do? **They came to the river Jordan.**

What did Joshua say to the people? **"Sanctify yourselves."**

What does "sanctify" mean? **To set apart.**
What did Joshua want the people to do? **To seek God in prayer.**

What did he say the Lord was about to do among them? **"Wonders."**

What did Joshua command the priests to do? **To take the ark, and go before the people.**

Of what was the ark the symbol? **Of the presence of God.**

Where did all the people come? **To the brink of the river.**

Who first went down to the water? **The priests, bearing the ark.**

What happened then? **A dry path appeared.**

What caused this? **The Lord rolled the waters back.**

How did all the people pass over? **Dry shod.**

What did this prove? **That the living God was among them.**

Words with Little People.

Joshua led the Israelites safely across the river Jordan into the land of Canaan, which God had given them.

Jesus, our Joshua, will lead his people safely across the river of death, into the heavenly Canaan, if they trust him.

Do we follow Jesus as the Israelites followed Joshua?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

[For the entire school.]

2 What was the next great event in Israel's history? **The passage of the Jordan.**

2 How did they cross this river? **They all passed over on dry ground.**

3 What was the apparent cause of this dry ground passage? **The ark in the river.**

4 What was the real cause? **The presence of the eternal God.**

5 What has been the voice of God to the world ever since? **"When thou passest," etc.**

CATECHISM QUESTION.

2 Did our first parents continue in the state in which God created them?

No: they fell from that state into sin.

ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE.**God and His People.****I. THE GOD OF ISRAEL.**

1. **His presence.** "Living God... among you." v. 10.

"Tremble... at the presence." Psa. 114. 7, 8.

"God is in the midst." Psa. 46. 5.

2. **His protection.** "Drive out... before you." v. 10.

"Didst drive out the heathen." Psa. 44. 2.

"Toucheth you... apple of his eye." Zech. 2. 8.

3. **His guidance.** "Passeth over before you." v. 11.

"Shepherd of Israel... flock." Psa. 80. 3.

"Other sheep I have." John 10. 16.

4. **His universality.** "Of all the earth." v. 11.

"Whither shall I go?" Psa. 139. 7-10.

"Beside me... no God." Isa. 44. 6.

5. **His power.** "Stood on a heap." v. 13.

"Jordan... driven back." Psa. 80. 3.

"Before all... glorified." Lev. 10. 3.

II. THE ISRAEL OF GOD.

1. **Holy.** "Sanctify yourselves." v. 5.

"Be ye holy, for I am holy." 1 Pet. 1. 16.

"God... sanctify you wholly." 1 Thess. 5. 23.

2. **Obedient.** "Removed from their tents." v. 14.

"I delight to do thy will." Psa. 40. 8.

"Obedient... ate the good." Isa. 1. 19.

3. **Believing.** "People passed over." v. 16.

"We walk by faith." 2 Cor. 5. 7.

"Without works is dead." James 2. 20.

THOUGHTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.**God's Mighty Works.**

1. God's mighty works demand holiness on the part of the people for whom they are wrought. We cannot expect God to do every thing for us, while we do nothing for his sake, v. 5.

2. God's wonders are wrought by his presence among his people. The ark of the covenant must go before, if the waters are to recede. If Christ be with his Church, twelve apostles can conquer a world.

3. God's mighty works are a foretaste of terror to his enemies. They forbode destruction to all who fight against God's cause. On which side are you in the battle?

4. God's works require faith and obedience on the side of his people. Israel must strike its tents, and form in array, and march into the river, and then God will do the rest. We have our part to do in the work of God.

5. God's works show a power which is above natural law working through natural law. We may be sure that no law of nature was violated in the miracle. For God knows how to use law for his own purposes.