

baptized, and asked him to come home for his evening meal. Overjoyed and unsuspecting of harm, the young man went. The mother put into the meal a drug, which does not destroy life, but renders its victim hopelessly insane. The son ate the food, lay down to sleep, and awoke in the morning, his reason gone. He was taken to an asylum. But he still held fast to his faith. "Forsake Jesus", he would exclaim, "forsake Jesus, did you say? Never. I will never give Him up. You may kill me, but I will never give up my Jesus. Oh, Jesus Christ, keep me, keep me, keep me, keep me firm to the end."

The recompence of the reward, v. 26. "God give you eyes", wrote Samuel Rutherford to Lady Kenmure, "to see through sickness and death, and to see something beyond death. I doubt not but that if hell were betwixt you and Christ, as a river which ye behoved to cross ere ye could come at Him, ye would willingly put in your foot, and make through to be at Him, upon hope that He would come in Himself, in the deepest of the river, and lend you His hand. Ye have also a promise that Christ shall do more than meet you, even that He shall come Himself, and go with you foot for foot, yea, and bear you in His arms. O then! O then for the joy that is set before you; for the love of the Man (who is also 'God over all, blessed for ever') that is standing upon the shore to welcome you, run your race with patience."

The walls of Jericho fell down, v. 30. In ancient history there is a story of a valiant

captain whose banner was always first in the fight, and whose sword was dreaded by all his enemies. His king once asked to see the sword. After carefully examining it he sent it back with the message, "I see nothing wonderful in this sword. I cannot see why any man should be afraid of it." The captain sent the reply, "Your majesty has been pleased to examine the sword; but I did not send the arm that wielded it." That is the mystery of the victories of faith. The instruments are often commonplace enough, as they were when the walls of Jericho fell down. It is the strength of faith that makes them mighty to the pulling down of the strongholds of sin.

Lesson Points

- Faith is the sight of the soul. v. 1.
- The God who gives faith, will never disappoint it. v. 1.
- Every mark of design in the universe is a finger post pointing to the Designer. v. 3.
- Obedience is the proof of faith. v. 17.
- Our business is to carry out God's commands: He will take care of the consequences. v. 19.
- Faith is the antidote of fear. v. 23.
- To be a child of God is a higher honor than to be a king's son. v. 24.
- The choices we make reveal our character and fix our destiny. v. 25.
- A true view of life is always a long view. v. 26.
- Victory over the world is assured to those who have a vision of God. v. 27.

TEACHING HINTS

This section embraces teaching material for the various grades in the School.

For Teachers of the Older Scholars and Bible Classes

A brief statement of the general object of the Epistle is necessary in order to appreciate the thought of the Lesson. The main object is to show the superiority of the Christian dispensation to the Mosaic dispensation, and the finality of the revelation in Jesus. To do this, the writer contrasts the medium through which truth was revealed, and points out the superiority of Jesus to the angels, chs. 1, 2. He further contrasts the inter-

cessors with God for the individual soul under the law of Moses and under the Christian system. The priest acted officially, because personally he was one of a sinful race (ch. 9 : 7), while Jesus acted, not only officially, but also personally, because He remained unspotted (ch. 7 : 26), though tempted in all points as we are, ch. 4 : 15. The contrast is pointed out, also, in the results of the two systems,—the earlier could never make the worshiper perfect (ch. 7 : 19), but Jesus does this by the power of an endless life, ch. 7 : 16. Out of this new life in Jesus springs forth the secret of power with God