

LESSON IX—September 1st, 1895.

The Fall of Jericho. JOSHUA 6: 8-20.

(Commit to memory verses 15 and 16.)

GOLDEN TEXT: "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days." Heb. 11: 30.

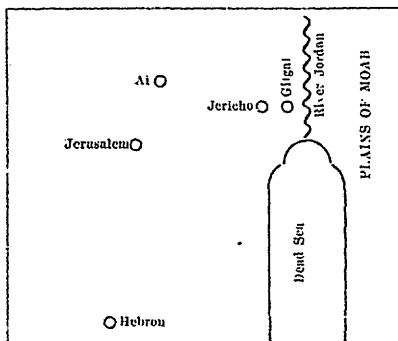
PROVE THAT—God makes use of feeble agencies. 1 Cor. 1: 27.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 35. *What is Sanctification?* A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 119, 121, 124, 122.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* The fall of Jericho. Josh. 6: 1-11. *Tuesday.* The fall of Jericho. Josh. 6: 12-20. *Wednesday.* Judgment on Jericho. Josh. 6: 21-27. *Thursday.* Joshua encouraged. Josh. 5: 10-15. *Friday.* Judgment on sinful nations. Deut. 7: 1-6. *Saturday.* The battle is the Lord's. 2 Chr. 20: 14-25. *Sabbath.* Power of living faith. Heb. 11: 24-31. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections.*)

HELPS IN STUDYING.



INTRODUCTORY. The Children of Israel encamped the first night at Gilgal. There they erected a monument consisting of twelve stones taken from the bed of the Jordan. They renewed the rite of circumcision, which had fallen into disuse during their forty years wandering, and observed the passover. They now partook of the newly reaped grain of the land, and the manna ceased to fall. They were once more restored to their position as God's accepted people. The reproach of their disobedience was "rolled" (Gilgal) away and they were about to take possession of the land as God's consecrated host. Jericho was immediately besieged.

LESSON PLAN. I. Jericho Invested. vs. 8-14. II. Jericho Doomed. vs. 15-20.

8. Before the Lord—Before the ark, as in the presence of the Lord. **9.** The order of procession was (1) the main body of the army, (2) seven priests blowing rams' horns, (3) the ark carried by the priests, and (4) the rear guard of armed men (Num. 10: 25). **10.** They were to march around the city once every day for six days in solemn silence. It must have seemed to them a very foolish proceeding, but it gave them an opportunity of noting the great strength of the walls, it tested their patience to listen to the taunts and jibes of the people of the city, and it made proof of their obedience to God's commands. **12. Joshua rose early in the morning**—His energy and promptness shew that he had the qualities of a good leader. On the seventh day, when more work had to be done, he rose earlier still. **15. Seven times**—According to Jewish tradition this was a Sabbath day. Much curiosity would be awakened amongst their enemies far and near, and the mode of the city's overthrow would increase the con-

sternation that the wonderful passage of the Jordan had created (Josh. 5: 1). The seven-fold circuit would probably occupy about 12 hours, so that it would be evening when the walls fell. **16. Shout**—Their shout and the blast of the rams' horns had no power to throw down the walls. They were demolished by the hand of God. **17. Accursed**—R. V. "devoted," placed under the ban. It was to be utterly destroyed (Deut. 7: 25). **Rahab**—She doubtless repented of her former evil life, for she was married to an Israelite (Salmon) and was an ancestress of Jesus (Matt. 1: 5). **18. In anywise**—By all means. They were strictly forbidden to plunder the city. They were God's executioners and not marauding invaders. **19.** All the spoil must go into the tabernacle treasury for the general purposes of the community. **20. The wall fell down flat**—There is no mention of any natural cause for this, such as an earthquake. It was a direct act of divine power.

LESSONS. 1. God's way is always the wisest and the best way. 2. Patience and obedience will receive their reward. 3. God's enemies shall perish. 4. God will bless those who shew kindness to his people. 5. Faith in Christ enables us to overcome our spiritual foes.