

His power and grace. Without words, it rebukes sin, and calls men to a life of righteousness.

God forbid that we should . . . serve other gods, v. 16. A recent story pictures a young minister listening, in one of the public parks

**The Challenge
of Christianity**

of London, England, to an attack upon Christianity. Obtaining permission to speak, he challenges the assailant to mention the schools and hospitals and asylums which have sprung up in the soil of unbelief. In this way, the edge of the attack was completely turned, and the young champion carried with him the enthusiasm of the crowd. We have but to count up the blessings which Christian lands possess, and contrast them with the misery and darkness of heathen countries, to be convinced that the religion of the Bible rightly commands our heartfelt homage and our unreserved obedience.

This stone . . . a witness, v. 27. As one enters the mouth of the Niagara River from Lake Ontario, there looks down upon him from the

**The Greatest
Monument
of All**

stately monument on Queenston Heights the soldierly figure of Sir Isaac Brock, the hero of the war of 1812. That monument is an enduring witness to the splendid courage, in leader and soldiers alike, which, at a critical moment preserved Canada for the British crown. That graceful shaft reared against the sky, and that silent figure of the hero who

died for king and country, are a constant reminder, more eloquent than words, of the loyalty required of each Canadian citizen. In like manner, when we read and hear the gospel, and especially when we come to the Lord's Table, we behold the cross, where the Son of God became "obedient unto death". That cross summons us, with a constraint more powerful than speech, to give our lives to the service of Him who has redeemed us at so great a cost.

Lesson Points

God does not compel us by His might to serve Him, but sweetly constrains us by His mercies. v. 14.

To compromise with evil is, in the end, to be conquered by it. v. 15.

We live by God's bounty; we should live to His praise. vs. 16-18.

To keep heaven's laws, we must have heaven's strength. v. 19.

The gospel offers salvation from sin, not in sin. v. 20.

Difficulties do not check the manly soul, but spur it on to nobler endeavor. v. 21.

Practice is the test of profession. v. 23.

We should be slow to make pledges and steadfast in keeping them. v. 24.

In God's house we receive power to do God's will. v. 26.

Our deeds furnish the testimony on which we shall be judged. v. 27.

TEACHING HINTS

This section embraces teaching material for the various grades of the school.

For Teachers of the Older Scholars

This is the last study in the life and work of Joshua. The six years of conquest had not wholly exterminated the Canaanites (ch. 23 : 12 ; Judg. 2 : 2, 3), but it had practically subdued the land, so that almost 20 years of peace followed. Immediately after the war, the soldiers of the tribes settled on the east side of Jordan returned to their homes and divided the spoil with those who had remained at home. The building of an altar on the east side led to some jealousy, but the difficulty was soon satisfactorily settled.

Joshua feels his work is almost over, being now 110 years of age, and having watched the whole life and tendency of the people in Canaan, he feels there is need of an urgent message. He gathers them together at Shechem, between Mounts Gerizim and Ebal, in a solemn manner, and, in the presence of the elders, judges and officers, makes his final appeal. After a brief historical review, in which he exalts the presence of God in all their conquests, he presses the question of their personal allegiance to God.

1. *The great choice offered*, vs. 14, 15. He appeals to their experience, and holds it is only reasonable to serve God, in view of all God had done. It is the argument of known fact. He wishes them to choose with all