

We've Always Been Provided For.

"Good wife, what are you singing for? you know we've lost the hay; And what we'll do with horse and kye is more than I can say; While, like as not, with storm and rain, we'll lose both corn and wheat." She looked up with a pleasant face, and answered low and sweet: "There is a Heart, there is a Hand, we feel, but cannot see; We've always been provided for, and we shall always be."

He turned around with sudden gloom. She said: "Love, be at rest; You cut the grass, worked soon and late; you did your very best. That was your work; you've naught at all to do with wind and rain, And do not doubt but you will reap rich fields of golden grain; For there's a Heart and there's a Hand, we feel, but cannot see; We've always been provided for, and we shall always be."

"That's like a woman's reasoning; we must because we must," She softly said: "I reason not; I only work and trust. The harvest may redeem the hay; keep heart, whate'er betide; When one door shuts, I've always seen another open wide. There is a Heart, there is a Hand, we feel, but cannot see; We've always been provided for, and we shall always be."

He kissed the calm and trustful face; gone was his restless pain. She heard him with a cheerful step go whistling down the lane, And went about her household tasks full of a glad content, Singing to time her busy hands, as to and fro she went: "There is a Heart, there is a Hand, we feel, but cannot see; We've always been provided for, and we shall always be."

Days come and go, 'twas Christmastide, and the great fire burned clear, The farmer said: "Dear wife, it's been a good and happy year; The fruit was gain, the surplus corn has brought the hay, you know." She lifted, then, a smiling face, and said: "I told you so, For there's a Heart, and there's a Hand, we feel, but cannot see; We've always been provided for, and we shall always be."

LESSON NOTES.**THIRD QUARTER.****STUDIES IN JEWISH HISTORY.**

B.C. 1451.] **LESSON IX.** [Sept. 1.
THE FALL OF JERICO.
Josh. 6. 8-20. Memory verses, 15, 16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

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

OUTLINE.

1. The Conquering Host, v. 8-15.
2. The Doomed City, v. 16-20.

TIME.—April, B.C. 1451.
PLACES.—Gilgal, Jericho.

INTRODUCTORY.

This miracle followed directly the miraculous crossing of the river. Two spies had been sent across the Jordan. They went to Jericho and lodged with Rahab, whose house was built on the city wall. They were tracked by the soldiers of Jericho, but Rahab successfully hid them under stalks of flax on her roof and got them safely out of town. Explicit directions were given to Joshua by God, and these orders he passed over to the people. Read especially verses 2-7 of this chapter.

HOME READINGS.

- M.** The fall of Jericho.—Josh. 6. 1-11.
Tu. The fall of Jericho.—Josh. 6. 12-20.
W. Judgment on Jericho.—Josh. 6. 21-27.
Th. Joshua encouraged.—Josh. 5. 10-15.
F. Judgment on sinful nations.—Deut. 7. 1-6.
S. The battle is the Lord's.—2 Chron. 20. 14-25.
Sa. Power of living faith.—Heb. 11. 24-31.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *The Conquering Host*, v. 8-15.
Who was the real leader of the host? See Josh. 5. 13-15.
What directions did he give to Joshua? Verses 2-5.
What command did Joshua give? Verses 6, 7.
What was the order of marching?
What had Joshua forbidden the people to do?
What only was done on the first day?
What was the order on the second day?
For how many days was this repeated?
When did the march begin on the seventh day?
How many times did they go about the city?
2. *The Doomed City*, v. 16-20.
What order was given at the seventh circuit?
What doom was pronounced on the city?
What mercy was proclaimed?
From what were the people to refrain?
Where were the silver and gold to go, and why?
Who disobeyed this command, and with what result? See Josh. 7.
What result followed the shout of the people?
What movement then followed?
What was the reason for this victory? (Golden Text.)
What fate came on the people of the city? Verse 21.

**THE FALL OF JERICO.**

- Who only were saved and how? Verses 22, 23.
What doom came to the city? Verse 24.
What curse was pronounced? Verse 26.
Upon whom did this curse fall? See 1 Kings 16. 34.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson may we find—

1. A test of faith?
2. A proof of faith?
3. The reward of faith?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

Who marched in silence around the hostile city of Jericho for six days? The priests, with the ark of God, and armed men. 2. How many times did they march around it on the seventh day? Seven times. 3. At the end of the last march what was the entire army ordered to do? "Shout; for the Lord hath given you the city." 4. What was the result? Jericho was overthrown by the power of God. 5. What is the Golden Text? "By faith the walls of Jericho," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The victory of faith.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

Are baptized infants partakers of these privileges?

They have the outward advantages of the Christian Church, and all the spiritual blessings of the covenant are assured to them for the future when they shall comply with the terms of the Gospel.

LIFE IS NOT WORTH LIVING UNLESS WE LIVE IT FOR SOMEBODY ELSE.

THE FALL OF JERICO.

THE Israelites had crossed Jordan, had erected a memorial with stones, had circumcised the people, and had kept the passover and eaten of the corn of the land (Josh. 4, 5). Joshua went out to inspect the city of Jericho, and as he "lifted his eyes and looked, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand; and Joshua went unto him and said unto him, art thou for us, or for our adversaries?" The answer soon came back, "Nay, but as captain of the host of the Lord am I now come." This struck Joshua and he fell on his face to the earth and there received his orders as to their movements. Remember, the children of Israel did not come to the land of Canaan to have an easy time—had they not moved forward at the bidding of the Master they would soon have been driven out of the land. The Christian who expects to have an easy time after he enters the experience of soul-rest is mistaken. It means fight if he would gain possession of the richest blessings. The enemy is not so ready to retreat.

The plan of battle was a new one. Joshua had never heard anything like it. They were to compass the city once each day for six days, and on the seventh day they were to march around the city seven

the people in the city think of this strange movement? What is the next they will do? Jericho was, no doubt, filled with anxiety and fear, not knowing what would be the outcome of this strange movement. On the third morning and the fourth, and fifth, and sixth, the same procession is seen marching around the city. Think of it, 40,000 men in this quiet march, and not a shout! Not a challenge is heard.

On the seventh day they get up bright and early, before daylight, for this day they have a great work before them. As they march round on that day the anxiety and fear of the people in the city is increased. They marched round the seventh time on that seventh day, and the priests blew their trumpets when Joshua gave the command: "Shout, for the Lord hath given you the city." What a shout this must have been, from 40,000 men at one time! The walls fell and the city was conquered. A glorious victory indeed.

We see obedience and unity in this conquest, and this is the secret of the success of God's people to-day. Oh, if men would only obey the Lord, what wondrous things would God do for them! They were not to shout until they were told. A Holy Ghost shout is all right and carries power with it, but a self-made shout is as hollow as a drum. Then they were ready to walk by faith, for what prospects to the reasoner was there here of ever taking the city by simply marching around it? Reason would have prepared battering rams, but faith is satisfied to move at the Lord's bidding though it is against, or beyond reason. "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not to bring to nought things that are." If you want to take possession of any promises in God's word, this is the way to go about it. The trouble to-day with most of God's people is they are not willing to take their place among the "foolish things," or the "weak or base things," or the "despised," and hence God can't use them. The Lord could do more with the stick in Moses' hand than with a thousand soldiers armed with Winchester rifles.

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