

at Kadesh-barnea and the crossing of the Jordan. Seven years must be added as the time occupied in the conquest of Canaan to make up the "forty and five years" of v. 10. *Moses . . . sent me . . . to espy out the land*; the only special service, so far as we know, that Caleb had had the opportunity of rendering, but he proved his faith and energy by making the most of that opportunity. *I brought . . . word . . . as . . . in mine heart*. He spoke out the truth as he believed it, without fear of man, and not seeking the favor of the people. *My brethren*. Their evil report of the land (Num. 13 : 32, 33) did not cause him to waver. *Made the heart of the people melt*. Caleb had to stand out, not only against the other spies, but also against the angry clamors of the whole multitude of Israel, Num. 14 : 1, 2.

V. 9. *Moses sware*. This oath is not recorded, but was made probably in the hearing of Joshua. *Land . . . thy feet have trodden*; during the expedition of the spies, in which Caleb had gone as far as Hebron, Num. 13 : 22. *Wholly followed the Lord*. A patent of nobility this, the highest that can be given.

II. A Promise Claimed, 10-12.

Vs. 10, 11. *The Lord hath kept me alive*; fulfilling the promise in Num. 14 : 24. The fulfilment of this one promise would encourage Caleb to believe that the other promise relating to the inheritance, made by Moses, as God's representative, would also be made good. *Fourscore and five . . . as strong . . . as I was*. His vigorous old age was the result and reward of a well spent life, and a further reason why Joshua should grant his request. *I am as strong . . . as . . . in the day that Moses sent me*. He was still in full vigor, in the possession of all his faculties and able to direct the enterprise of his followers. *Give me this mountain*; the mountainous region in which Hebron was situated. *Cities were great and fenced*; fortified with strong walls. Caleb was asking for a post of difficulty and danger, rather than for an easy and rich reward for past services. *The Lord . . . with me . . . able to drive them out*. Caleb showed his old confidence in the Lord's power to give effective help to Israel, if they would but trust him, Num. 14 : 8, 9.

III. A Promise Fulfilled, 13-15.

Vs. 13-15. *And Joshua blessed him*; im-

plored the blessing of God upon his undertaking. *Gave . . . Hebron for an inheritance*. Hebron held an honorable place in the traditions of the nation. It was the home of Abraham, and there both he and Sarah were buried in the cave of Macphelah; also Isaac, and Rebekah, and Jacob and Leah, Gen. 49 : 10; 50 : 13. *Kirjath-arba*; the city of Arba. *Anakims*; a race of giants.

Light from the East

CALEB—This is the Hebrew word for dog, which was to a Jew an expression of contempt and a synonym for an unclean abomination, such as a criminal or an idolater, and therefore no true Jew would have called his child a dog. Caleb is expressly called a Kenezite, that is, a descendant of one of the tribes of Edom, so called from Kenaz, the grandson of Esau. His enrolment in Israel is an example of what is still common among Eastern tribes, that is, men not originally of them, but following a common life, attaching themselves to a friendly clan, and finally through marriage and military service becoming entirely absorbed in it. This also serves to account for the very great increase in the number of the Israelites in a comparatively short time. They grew, not only from within, but by large accessions from without.

ANAKIM—"Men of Neck", not long-necked, but thick-necked, a gigantic and ferocious looking race of men in early Palestine, very likely some remnant of the aboriginal inhabitants. The Hebrews, being a slight and somewhat undersized race of men, thought the stalwart mountaineers monsters. But from the measurements of individuals here and there in the record, there must have been among them men of very unusual size and strength, whose importance in the wars of that time can well be understood.

The report of great stature of the Anakim inspired the Israelites with terror, before they began the invasion of Canaan. They were driven from their possessions by Joshua, and seem to have been extinguished as a people, save that a few families of the race continued to exist in the country of the Philistines. From amongst these doubtless sprang the afterwards famous Goliath of Gath.