

this mortal conflict the sun stood still upon Gibeon, and the moon in the valley of Ajalon, at the desire of Joshua, "until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies." It is recorded "there was no day like that before it or after it."

The name of this great slaughter is known as "The Battle of Beth-horon or Gibeon." The day previous to the conflict the Amorites had besieged one of the royal cities of Canaan called Gibeon, situated four miles north of Jerusalem and fifteen miles west of Gilgal, and whose inhabitants had made a peaceful league with Joshua by a curious stratagem, and claimed his protection from their incensed neighbors bent on vengeance.

Joshua, at the request of these Gibeonites, ascended from Gilgal during the night, "he and all the people of war with him," coming suddenly upon the assembled hosts of the Amorites, routing them and chasing them north-westward through upper and lower Beth-horon, and down toward the south, through the steep passes of this mountain region, during a dreadful hail-storm, until they were consumed. This great battle was completed by the entire conquest of the whole southern half of Palestine, from Kadesh-barnea to Gaza, the eastern and western limits of the southern frontier.

Coming up through this "hill country," Dr. Talmage's guide pointed to Gibeon in the distance. He also pointed out the brook where David slew the giant. Arriving at this place no earthly power could keep Dr. Talmage in the saddle, and dismounting from his horse, descended to the brook and picked up a number of pebbles to add to his curiosities, such as David selected three thousand years before. Above this brook, at the foot of a hill, is the village which is pointed out as the birthplace of John the Baptist, where the Mother of Our Lord spent three months with her cousin Elizabeth, and composed that ever-memorable triumphant song recorded by Luke. Dr. Talmage was here elated, having procured much new material for his "Life of Christ," and after resting a short time under "the shadow of a great rock in a weary land," resumed his ride for the last stage of his pilgrimage to the Holy City. As the grey walls and domes of the city began to rise before him his heart beat faster and faster, and with all the solemnity and enthusiasm of his nature, he and his "tribe" passed through the Jaffa gate as the last rays of the setting sun cast their gilding influence over the illustrious scene.

Dr. Talmage having gained the object of his ambition, by standing in the "City of the Great King," informs the world