

Sunday School Lesson

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON, DEC. 16, 1951

THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN

MEMORY SELECTION: "As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee; I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."—Joshua 1:5, 20. Text: Joshua 1:17; 6:1-5, 20.

Because of Moses' rebellion against God in the Wilderness of Zin, God decreed that he would not be allowed to actually lead the children of Israel into the Promised Land. Instead of pleading with God to change his mind, Moses prays for a worthy successor and God points out Joshua, who had been born in Egypt, had followed Moses' leading throughout the wilderness journey and was one of the two spies who had been sent to spy out the land of Canaan, to bring back a true report of conditions.

After the death of Moses, Joshua heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Moses, my servant, is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel." It was no easy task to lead so great a throng of people, to try to take the place of so great a leader as Moses, and to go up to fight against an enemy as the Canaanites. But Joshua was not afraid, for had not God declared: "There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee; I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee; Be strong and of good courage; for thou shalt cause this people to inherit the land which I swear unto their fathers to give them." (Joshua 1:5-6).

Three times in four verses Jehovah exhorts Joshua to stand firmly and courageously. "Be strong and of good courage," Jehovah says to Joshua because, as the leader of the Israelites, he would cause his people to possess the Promised Land. Immediately thereafter, Jehovah reiterates, "Only be strong and very courageous" to observe the law so that Jehovah's goodness to them could be continued.

Finally, Jehovah repeats this injunction for strength and faith, justified by the fact that Joshua would be executing the divine commandments. Our modern age sometimes forgets the strength and faith which they may have if only they submit their life to the guidance of God.

While Joshua was very unlike his predecessor, Moses, he knew that he had a God-given task to perform and he went about to accomplish it. It was Joshua's lot to be a religious warrior, to make a conquest for God's chosen people and to provide for them a permanent place of abode where they might grow into a united,

God-loving and God-serving nation. It was his ambition to get the people of Israel to commit themselves, deeply and irrevocably, to a position of unqualified loyalty and obedience to Jehovah, their God.

Having received his orders from God, Joshua began immediately to make plans to advance into Canaan. He outlined his plans to the people, so that they would understand just what was before them and then gave orders for the people to get ready. They were to sanctify themselves—wash their clothes and make themselves as clean as possible, for it was time to cross the Jordan river. When they saw the ark of the covenant being carried by the priests, they were to fall into march behind it. The same power which had held back the waters of the Red Sea was to stop the waters of the Jordan, so that they could cross dry-shod.

Gilgal became Joshua's base of operations after the crossing of the Jordan. From there they were to wage their battles for the conquest of the Promised Land. Jericho was the most important city in the region, about five miles from Gilgal, and Joshua was anxious to take Jericho first, as it would be the means of holding three highways that led to the rest of the southern region of Canaan. As a matter of fact, Jericho had to be captured before the Israelites could advance further into the interior of the country.

The city was surrounded by a high wall, which enclosed about seven acres and three thousand people. Joshua, with the guidance of God, outlined his plan of procedure to the people. They first besieged the city. Then the soldiers marched around the city each day for six days, to demoralize the inhabitants of Jericho. Then, on the seventh day, they marched around the city seven times, shouting at the top of their voices and with the priests blowing their ram's horns. And, as a result, the walls tumbled and the city was captured. Everything in the city was destroyed completely and all of the inhabitants were killed. Nothing was left but a heap of smoldering ruins. With the help of Jehovah, the first obstacle in the path of the conquest of Canaan was removed.

It is well to remember that we all have our "Jericho's"—our times of apparently insurmountable difficulties. However, if we are conscious of the help of God at all times, we like the Israelites, can conquer our "Jericho's" be they spiritual, personal or social.

(These commentaries are based on the International Uniform Sunday School Lesson Outlines, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education and used by permission.)

"Cheer up," said the doctor, "I've had exactly the same complaint myself."
"Yes," replied the patient doubtfully, "but you didn't have the same doctor."

When you see a Union Shop Card you know the firm which displays it pays Union wages and observes Union working conditions. Non-Union firms do not display the Shop Card. Look for it!

It is a fact that singing is extremely beneficial in certain cases of deafness, says a medical column. And vice-versa.—Life.

LABOR EDITORS PRAISE TOBIN'S UNITY PLEA

Washington, D. C. (ILNS). The Eastern Labor Press Conference "warmly" commended Daniel J. Tobin, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, for his appeal for labor unity in an editorial, "Labor Needs Organic Unity," which appears in the December issue of his union's magazine, "The International Teamster."

In the editorial Tobin wrote: "The last election and the conditions prevailing in Congress against labor and the do-nothingness by the tops of the government should be enough to awaken the men and women of labor to demand that there be a coming together under one banner. . . ."

"Any of those on either side of the fence that are preventing such a coming-together should be classified as helping the enemies of labor who are trying to keep us divided and wrangling among ourselves. . . . It works to the detriment of the masses of men and women of labor who expect the leadership that they placed in charge of the unions to come together and, by unity and collective action, stop the enemies of labor from destroying the trade union movement of America."

The Eastern Labor Press Conference, professional organization of American Federation of Labor and other bona fide labor editors, publishers and writers east of the Mississippi River, called Tobin's appeal for labor unity "a most excellent and most timely statement."

IEWS AND REVIEWS

Eric Johnston, Economic Stabilization Administrator: "The typhoon of inflation is building up to strike."

Gen. O. P. Weyland, Commander of the Far East Air Forces: "The Communists are now trying for aerial supremacy in the North-western part of North Korea."

Yu-Yue Tau, General Secretary, National Council of the Chinese Church: "Nothing is sacred in the eyes of the totalitarian State."

Dr. John A. F. Maynard, preacher: "American values are initiative, independence, a sense of democracy and a human and tolerant faith in God."

Dr. Arthur Judson Brown, 85-year-old churchman: "Old men sometimes grow cynical and pessimistic but, as for me, I'm an incorrigible optimist."

Herbert Hoover, former President: "The co-operation of independent nations is the only basis upon which international peace can be permanently built and sustained."

All You Need
All you need to win the world's good will and support is to reach the point where you don't need it.—Minneapolis Star.

Buy Union and fight the aggressors who would destroy American labor standards.

On Guard



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Now they can earn more money for you!



NEW LAW PROVIDES TEN MORE INTEREST-EARNING YEARS FOR YOUR SERIES E BONDS... AND YOU NEED NOT DO A THING!

Are you one of those smart and patriotic Americans who began an automatic saving program with Series E Government Bonds in 1941? Then you're one of the lucky people who can profit by a new law now!

A bill recently passed by Congress now makes it possible for your United States Defense Bonds to continue earning interest ten years longer than was originally planned.

For example, a Series E Bond which cost you \$18.75 in 1941 will pay you \$25 in 1951. But if you hold that bond ten extra years, until 1961, it will pay you \$33.33, an average interest of 2.9% compounded annually. You get similar increases on Series E Bonds of every denomination.



And there is nothing for you, as a bond holder, to do. You need not exchange the bonds you have. You need not sign any paper, fill out any form. You simply keep your bonds as you have been keeping them.

You may still redeem any Series E Bond at any time after you've owned it for sixty days. (The tables on this page show what you can get for it.) But unless you really need the cash you're much better off to hold your bonds. For U. S. Defense Bonds are as safe as America itself.

When you buy your bonds regularly and hold them, they are steadily building a sum big enough to buy something really worth while—a home, a business, a retirement fund, an education for your children.

And bonds are safer than cash! If you lose or accidentally destroy cash it's gone for good. But when you have your cash in Defense Bonds, the U. S. Treasury will replace lost or destroyed bonds at no cost to you.



So if some of your bonds are coming due, take advantage of this new offer of your government—just sit back and let them go on making money. Meanwhile keep adding to your savings by buying more United States Defense Bonds regularly—through the Payroll Savings Plan where you work or the Bond-A-Month Plan where you bank. System is the secret of saving.



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The new law also allows you to exchange your Series E Bonds, in blocks of \$500 or more, for Special Series G Bonds which pay interest semi-annually at the rate of 2 1/2% per year. For full details, ask at any Federal Reserve Bank or Branch.

Here's how Series E Defense Bonds earn the first 10 years

Maturity value	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$100.00
Issue price	18.75	37.50	75.00

Period after issue date	Redemption values during each year
1 year	\$18.75 \$37.50 \$ 75.00
2 years	19.00 38.00 76.00
3 years	19.25 38.50 77.00
4 years	19.75 39.50 78.00
5 years	20.25 40.50 81.00
6 years	20.75 41.50 83.00
7 years	21.50 43.00 86.00
8 years	22.50 45.00 90.00
9 years	23.50 47.00 94.00
10 years	24.50 49.00 98.00
Maturity value (10 years from issue date)	25.00 50.00 100.00

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Original maturity (or face) value	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Issue price	18.75	37.50	75.00	150.00	375.00	750.00

Period after issue date	Redemption values during each year
11 years	\$25.31 \$50.62 \$101.25 \$202.50 \$506.25 \$1,012.50
12 years	25.94 51.87 103.75 207.50 518.75 1,037.50
13 years	26.58 53.12 106.25 212.50 531.25 1,062.50
14 years	27.19 54.37 108.75 217.50 543.75 1,087.50
15 years	27.81 55.62 111.25 222.50 556.25 1,112.50
16 years	28.44 56.87 113.75 227.50 568.75 1,137.50
17 years	29.06 58.12 116.25 232.50 581.25 1,162.50
18 years	30.00 60.00 120.00 240.00 600.00 1,200.00
19 years	31.33 62.67 125.33 250.67 626.67 1,253.33
20 years	32.67 65.33 130.67 261.33 653.33 1,306.67
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