

# THE SUCCESSFUL CONQUEST OF JERICHO

[BIBLE TEXT](#) : Joshua 5:10-15; 6:1-27

LESSON 155 Senior Course

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful In praises, doing wonders?" (Exodus 15:11).

## [BIBLE TEXT in King James Version](#)

### Joshua 5:10-15

<sup>10</sup> And the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho.

<sup>11</sup> And they did eat of the old corn of the land on the morrow after the passover, unleavened cakes, and parched *corn* in the selfsame day.

<sup>12</sup> And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna any more; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

<sup>13</sup> And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, 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?

<sup>14</sup> And he said, Nay; but *as* captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?

<sup>15</sup> And the captain of the LORD'S host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest *is* holy. And Joshua did so.

### Joshua 6:1-27

<sup>1</sup> Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.

<sup>2</sup> And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand

## [BIBLE REFERENCES:](#)

### I First Days in Canaan Land

1 Israel kept their third Passover on the plains of Jericho, Joshua 5:10;

#### **Numbers 9:4-5**

<sup>4</sup> And Moses spake unto the children of Israel, that they should keep the passover.

<sup>5</sup> And they kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the first month at even in the wilderness of Sinai: according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did the children of Israel.

#### **Exodus 12:7-11**

<sup>7</sup> And they shall take of the blood, and strike *it* on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

<sup>8</sup> And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; *and* with bitter *herbs* they shall eat it.

<sup>9</sup> Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast *with* fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof.

<sup>10</sup> And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.

<sup>11</sup> And thus shall ye eat it; *with* your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: *it is* the LORD'S passover.

2 The manna, Israel's main supply of food for forty years, ceased when Israel was able to obtain food in the land of Canaan, Joshua 5:10-12

### II Captain of the Host of the Lord

1 Joshua met the Captain of the host of the Lord, Joshua 5:13-15;

#### **Exodus 23:20-23**

<sup>20</sup> Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.

<sup>21</sup> Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name *is* in him.

<sup>22</sup> But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries.

<sup>23</sup> For mine Angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off.

#### **Isaiah 55:4**

<sup>4</sup> Behold, I have given him *for* a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people.

#### **Hebrews 2:10**

<sup>10</sup> For it became him, for whom *are* all things, and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

#### **Revelation 19:11-16**

<sup>11</sup> And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Jericho, and the king thereof, *and* the mighty men of valour.

<sup>3</sup> And ye shall compass the city, all *ye* men of war, *and* go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.

<sup>4</sup> And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

<sup>5</sup> And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long *blast* with the ram's horn, *and* when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.

<sup>6</sup> And Joshua the son of Nun called the priests, and said unto them, Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD.

<sup>7</sup> And he said unto the people, Pass on, and compass the city, and let him that is armed pass on before the ark of the LORD.

<sup>8</sup> And it came to pass, when Joshua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the LORD, and blew with the trumpets: and the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them.

<sup>9</sup> And the armed men went before the priests that blew with the trumpets, and the rereward came after the ark, *the priests* going on, and blowing with the trumpets.

<sup>10</sup> And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall *any* word proceed out of your mouth, until

<sup>12</sup> His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

<sup>13</sup> And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the armies *which were* in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

<sup>15</sup> And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

<sup>16</sup> And he hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

2 Joshua worshiped the Lord, Joshua 5:14, 15;

**Exodus 3:5**

<sup>5</sup> And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

### III Conquest of Jericho

1 The city of Jericho, its king, and its inhabitants were given to Israel by divine command, Joshua 6:2

**Joshua 2:9**

<sup>9</sup> And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you.

**Joshua 2:24**

<sup>24</sup> And they said unto Joshua, Truly the LORD hath delivered into our hands all the land; for even all the inhabitants of the country do faint because of us.

**Joshua 8:12**

<sup>12</sup> And he took about five thousand men, and set them to lie in ambush between Bethel and Ai, on the west side of the city.

**Joshua 11:6-12**

<sup>6</sup> And the LORD said unto Joshua, Be not afraid because of them: for to morrow about this time will I deliver them up all slain before Israel: thou shalt hough their horses, and burn their chariots with fire.

<sup>7</sup> So Joshua came, and all the people of war with him, against them by the waters of Merom suddenly; and they fell upon them.

<sup>8</sup> And the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel, who smote them, and chased them unto great Zidon, and unto Misrephothmaim, and unto the valley of Mizpeh eastward; and they smote them, until they left them none remaining.

<sup>9</sup> And Joshua did unto them as the LORD bade him: he houghed their horses, and burnt their chariots with fire.

<sup>10</sup> And Joshua at that time turned back, and took Hazor, and smote the king thereof with the sword: for Hazor beforetime was the head of all those kingdoms.

<sup>11</sup> And they smote all the souls that *were* therein with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying *them*: there was not any left to breathe: and he burnt Hazor with fire.

<sup>12</sup> And all the cities of those kings, and all the kings of them, did Joshua take, and smote them with the edge of the sword, *and* he utterly destroyed them, as Moses the servant of the LORD commanded.

**2 Samuel 5:19**

<sup>19</sup> And David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up to the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the LORD said unto David, Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into thine hand.

**Daniel 2:21**

<sup>21</sup> And he changeth the times and the seasons: he

the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.

<sup>11</sup> So the ark of the LORD compassed the city, going about *it* once: and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.

<sup>12</sup> And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD.

<sup>13</sup> And seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD went on continually, and blew with the trumpets: and the armed men went before them; but the rereward came after the ark of the LORD, *the priests* going on, and blowing with the trumpets.

<sup>14</sup> And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days.

<sup>15</sup> And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times.

<sup>16</sup> And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city.

<sup>17</sup> And the city shall be accursed, *even* it, and all that *are* therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that *are* with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.

<sup>18</sup> And ye, in any wise keep *yourselves* from the accursed thing, lest ye make *yourselves* accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.

<sup>19</sup> But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, *are* consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the

removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:

2 Specific and detailed instructions were given Joshua by God as to the method of attacking Jericho, Joshua 6:3-5;

#### **Judges 7:16-18**

<sup>16</sup> And he divided the three hundred men *into* three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers.

<sup>17</sup> And he said unto them, Look on me, and do likewise: and, behold, when I come to the outside of the camp, it shall be *that*, as I do, so shall ye do.

<sup>18</sup> When I blow with a trumpet, I and all that *are* with me, then blow ye the trumpets also on every side of all the camp, and say, *The sword* of the LORD, and of Gideon.

3 Israel's faith in God was tested by following a seemingly useless ritual before the attack on Jericho, Joshua 6:6, 7;

#### **Judges 7:4-7**

<sup>4</sup> And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people *are* yet *too* many; bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there: and it shall be, *that* of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.

<sup>5</sup> So he brought down the people unto the water: and the LORD said unto Gideon, Every one that lapped of the water with his tongue, as a dog lapped, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink.

<sup>6</sup> And the number of them that lapped, *putting* their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men: but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.

<sup>7</sup> And the LORD said unto Gideon, By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand: and let all the *other* people go every man unto his place.

#### **2 Kings 3:16-20**

<sup>16</sup> And he said, Thus saith the LORD, Make this valley full of ditches.

<sup>17</sup> For thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts.

<sup>18</sup> And this is *but* a light thing in the sight of the LORD: he will deliver the Moabites also into your hand.

<sup>19</sup> And ye shall smite every fenced city, and every choice city, and shall fell every good tree, and stop all wells of water, and mar every good piece of land with stones.

<sup>20</sup> And it came to pass in the morning, when the meat offering was offered, that, behold, there came water by the way of Edom, and the country was filled with water.

4 Israel obeyed the commands of God, with the result that Jericho's wall fell down, Joshua 6:8-20;

#### **Hebrews 11:30**

<sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

5 Israel was warned to destroy every living creature, both man and beast, all except Rahab and her family, which was done, Joshua 6:17, 21-25

6 Israel was told that everything in the city was accursed, except the gold, the silver, and the vessels of brass and iron, which were to be the Lord's, Joshua 6:17-19, 24

7 Joshua pronounced a curse upon anyone who would rebuild Jericho, Joshua 6:26, 27;

#### **1 Kings 16:34**

LORD.

<sup>20</sup> So the people shouted when *the priests* blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

<sup>21</sup> And they utterly destroyed all that *was* in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword.

<sup>22</sup> But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her.

<sup>23</sup> And the young men that were spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel.

<sup>24</sup> And they burnt the city with fire, and all that *was* therein: only the silver, and the gold, and the vessels of brass and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD.

<sup>25</sup> And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel *even* unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

<sup>26</sup> And Joshua adjured *them* at that time, saying, Cursed *be* the man before the LORD, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest *son* shall he set up the gates of it.

<sup>27</sup> So the LORD was with Joshua; and his fame was *noised*

<sup>34</sup> In his days did Hiel the Bethelite build Jericho: he laid the foundation thereof in Abiram his firstborn, and set up the gates thereof in his youngest *son* Segub, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Joshua the son of Nun.

### **NOTES:**

#### **Keeping the Passover**

"The children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho." This statement is all that the Scripture has to say of the first Passover feast that was observed by Israel in Canaan land.

It must have been a joyful time for Israel. Gone was the desert heat and burning sun of their wilderness wanderings. There was no more dreary waiting for long years to pass before entrance could be gained into the land of promise. Only one other time had Israel observed the feast of the Passover since they had left Egypt. That had been at Mount Sinai, the mount of fire, when God came down and gave to Israel His commandments and His covenant. There had they kept the feast of the Passover in memory of that memorable night when God delivered His people from Egyptian bondage (**Numbers 9:4-5** <sup>4</sup> And Moses spake unto the children of Israel, that they should keep the passover. <sup>5</sup> And they kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the first month at even in the wilderness of Sinai: according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did the children of Israel).

"This day shall be unto you for a memorial" (Exodus 12:14); and it must have been with mixed emotions and memories of many events that this younger generation of Israel kept this Passover on the threshold of their occupying the land of promise.

As it was the time of the barley harvest, Israel probably gave to God an offering of barley before partaking of the fruits of the harvest of this new land. (**Leviticus 23:14** <sup>14</sup> And ye shall eat neither bread, nor parched corn, nor green ears, until the selfsame day that ye have brought an offering unto your God: *it shall be* a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings)

God had provided food for Israel by giving them manna. It arrived every morning, except on the Sabbath, and was life-sustaining. It never failed, and was in sufficient quantities to feed several million people forty years. If ever proof was needed of the willingness of God to work miracles for His people, this record of God's providing food and water for Israel during their wilderness wanderings is ample evidence.

Yet God performs miracles when nothing else will suffice. When Israel had no food and water, God provided. When they entered into a fruitful land, abundant with food and water, immediately the manna ceased, and Israel had the fruit of the field and vine.

#### **Captain of the Host**

When Joshua was looking over the scene of the coming battle, he was met by a Stranger. As the Stranger had a drawn sword in his hand, Joshua boldly questioned Him as to whom He was allied with. The Stranger informed Joshua that He had come as the Captain of the host of the Lord. It was then Joshua evidently realized that he was being visited by a heavenly Being, and not a mortal man. Yes, and more than a heavenly Being! This Visitor was the Lord! He was indeed the Captain of the host of the Lord, for there is only one Captain of that host, and He is Jesus Christ!

throughout all the country.

Joshua fell to the earth to worship Him, whereupon Joshua was told to remove his shoes for he was on holy ground. Moses had a similar experience when he saw a burning bush, unconsumed by the fire. Moses drew aside to see such an unusual sight, and was told by God to remove his shoes for he was on holy ground. It was then Moses received his commission to lead Israel out of Egyptian bondage.

Joshua, also on holy ground, was met by the Lord and received instruction and inspiration for the coming days of battle. The Lord is always quick to encourage His people when there is a need, and this time was no exception. What could have been more encouragement for Joshua than a visitation of the Lord to embolden him for his task?

### Orders for Battle

Joshua was given explicit and detailed instructions as to how the conquest of Jericho was to be conducted. As in the past, nothing was left to chance or doubt.

The worship of God was very detailed, and was carried on in the most orderly and disciplined manner, and so also were the other affairs of Israel.

Under the leadership of God, Israel was more than an unorganized group of shepherds and herdsmen. They were a well intergraded army, victors over the greatest warriors of their day. They had left Pharaoh and all his men drowning in the Red Sea, and had marched undefeated and triumphantly through all the countries of their enemies. Israel was the exemplification to the heathen nations of the power and might of God.

The author of the Song of Solomon wrote in metaphorical language of the splendor, might, and power of the Bride of Christ and the Church: "Thou art beautiful, O my love, as Tirzah, comely as Jerusalem, terrible as an army with banners." And again, "Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners?" (Song of Solomon 6:4, 10).

Balaam, a man accredited with ability to bless and curse whom he would, was inspired by God to prophesy of Israel, and he said of this great multitude: "God brought them out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn. Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel: according to this time it shall be said of Jacob and of Israel, What hath God wrought! Behold, the people shall rise up as a great lion, and lift up himself as a young lion: he shall not lie down until he eat of the prey, and drink the blood of the slain" (Numbers 23:22-24).

The armies of Israel were an awe-inspiring sight, and the tales of their invincibility had gone through all the land, until the nations resisting Israel were terrified at the prospect of opposing them in battle.

Rahab told the two spies that the people's hearts did melt because of Israel, and there was no courage in any man, because of the God Israel served (**Joshua 2:9-11** <sup>9</sup> And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. <sup>10</sup> For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. <sup>11</sup> And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath). Thus Jericho found itself

surrounded by this great army who worshiped the great God of Heaven.

### Victory by Faith

The conquest of Jericho was a battle to be won by faith in God. The Lord had told Joshua that the city, its king, and all its inhabitants were given into the hands of Israel; so Israel marched around Jericho in complete confidence that God would perform all He had promised (**Romans 4:21** <sup>21</sup> And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform).

To the heathen nations, some of the military tactics Israel used in battle may have seemed ridiculous. However, there was nothing ludicrous about the results Israel obtained with their peculiar ways, for their peculiarity was the wisdom of God. (**1 Peter 2:9** <sup>9</sup> But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: **1 Corinthians 1:18-29** <sup>18</sup> For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. <sup>20</sup> Where *is* the wise? where *is* the scribe? where *is* the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? <sup>21</sup> For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. <sup>22</sup> For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: <sup>23</sup> But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; <sup>24</sup> But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. <sup>26</sup> For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called*: <sup>27</sup> 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; <sup>28</sup> 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: <sup>29</sup> That no flesh should glory in his presence) Israel's forty-year wandering in the wilderness had taught them to obey God despite how little they might understand the reason or wisdom of God's commands. Consequently, marching around Jericho seven days may have mystified the occupants of Jericho, but to Israel it was a march of obedience and faith.

There are savages yet today who, before going into battle, work themselves into great frenzies of shouting and excitement, thinking that in such displays they will not only embolden themselves but will also frighten their enemies. Such exhibitions are the product of sin and fanatical superstition. (**1 Kings 18:26-29** <sup>26</sup> And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed *it*, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But *there was* no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made. <sup>27</sup> And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he *is* a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked. <sup>28</sup> And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them. <sup>29</sup> And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the *time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that *there was* neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded)

Israel's march around Jericho was not in fanatical idol worship, but was in obedience to the command of God. They marched in silence, except for the blowing of trumpets. Perhaps

God had them march in silence to show the contrast between the usual mad howling of heathen savages as they went into battle, and the prayerful silence of the people of God. Silence is a sign of respect; and could not Israel's silence as they marched around Jericho have been respect for the God who was in their midst?

### **QUESTIONS**

- 1 How many Passover feasts had Israel kept at this time? and where were they observed?
- 2 What form of food did Israel use in Canaan land?
- 3 Who was the Captain of the host of the Lord?
- 4 Why did Israel march around Jericho seven times?
- 5 Was there any military reason for such a march?
- 6 Why were the Canaanites afraid of Israel?
- 7 What was the secret of the invincibility of Israel?
- 8 How is this story going to be fulfilled again?

### **A Shout for Battle**

When Israel had encompassed the city for the seventh time on the seventh day, Joshua commanded all the people to shout, for the Lord had given them the city. The priests blew the trumpets, and the people all shouted, and the wall of Jericho fell down. Israel went up and took the city.

Military history has proved that a walled city can be very difficult to conquer, and sometimes impossible. Israel's might was their faith in God; and no matter how well Jericho might have been defended, from the military standpoint, it availed little for Jericho. The Psalmist has said, "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain" (Psalm 127:1).

And again, "There is no king saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is not delivered by much strength. An horse is a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver any by his great strength" (Psalm 33: 16, 17).

The heathen nations of Canaan refused to recognize the homage and duty of love they owed to the great God of Heaven, and, therefore, suffered the righteous judgments of God by the hand of Israel. They could have repented, but they did not. Their day of repentance finally came to an end, and they suffered destruction for their sin. They would have done well to have listened to the admonition of God's Word: "Give unto the LORD, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength. Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts. O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth. Say among the heathen that the LORD reigneth" (Psalm 96:7-10).

"By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days" (Hebrews 11:30). Here, in short, is the picture of the armies of God who will in the end encompass every stronghold of iniquity and wickedness, and will at last by faith, through that great Captain of the host of the Lord, have complete and final victory, and will reign forever with Him in peace, holiness, equity, and righteousness.

**"Do you hear them coming, brother,  
Thronging up the steeps of light,  
Clad in glorious, shining garments,  
Blood-washed garments, pure and white?"**

**"Do you hear the stirring anthems  
Filling all the earth and sky?  
'Tis a grand, victorious army;  
Lift its banner up on high."**