TALMAGE'S SERMON.

SOME LESSONS IN CHRISTIAN WARFARE.

Encouraging Words for Those Engaged in the Battles of Life — God's Soldiers Never Turn Backward — Divine Promises.

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In this discourse Dr. Talmage follows Joshua on his triumphal march and speaks encouraging words to all who are engaged in the battles of this life, text, Joshua i. 5, "There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life."

Moses was dead. A beautiful tradition says the Lord kissed him and in that act drew forth the soul of the sublime magnitude. Two Jewish historians tell one story at the funeral, the same one since passed him. But God never takes a man away from any place unawares, and he had some one ready to begin where he left off. The Lord had no time to mourn around a man's grave with the people. He ordered them to get up and go forward. Moses was dead, but Joshua was on the platform of living activity, and the Lord encouraged him by telling him that he would be successful, but he would be found in the fight, and he would find God on the battlefield. Joshua's life was a life of military equipment. He was a soldier by God's appointment at the start. There will not many men able to stand up under the responsibilities of the life of a fighter. I think that is the splendid thing in Joshua's final battle-cry with the sun standing still in the midst of heaven. Joshua, the commander-in-chief of heaven, with five hundred battalions of stars, and the sun for a torch, lighting the way for the battle. Joshua, the king of heroic death, five hundred victories.

As a rule when the general of an army starts out in a war he would like to have a small battle in order that he may get his own generals up and fairly his troops and get them drilled for greater conflicts, but the first undertaking of Joshua was greater than the leveling of Fort Pillaseg, or the assault of Gibraltar, or the overthrow of the Bastile. It was the crossing of the Jordan at the time of the annual freshet. The Jordan, Mount Lebanon had just been melting, and they poured down into the valley, and the whole valley was a raging torrent. So the Canaanites stand on one bank, and the Israelites under Joshua and the high priests on the other bank, and the time of the crossing is at hand. Joshua gives the command: "Prepare victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land." Joshua, the commander, looks at his army and sees Pharaoh's march and thinks of the passage of the Jordan. The priests carrying the ark of the covenant. Joshua feels strong and he feels safe. The ark of the covenant. And they come down, and no sooner do they touch the rim of the water with their feet than by an Almighty fiat Jordan parts. The army of Joshua marches right over the bottom of the river, a path of chalk and broken shells and pebbles, until they get to the other bank. Then they law hold of the oil, under and tamarisks and willows and themselves up a bank some 70 feet high and having passed the other bank they dispatched scouts and the cymbals and shout the praises of the God of Joshua. But no sooner have they reached the bank than the waters begin to dash and roar, and with a terrific rush they break loose from their strange discharge.

No Going Backward.

As the hand of the Lord God is taken away from the dam that permitted the waters, which perhaps emptied half a mile, they rush down and some of the unbelieving Israelites say: "Alas, alas, what a misfortune! Why could not those waters have stood parted? Because perhaps we may want to go back. O Lord, we are weary, we are risky business. Those Canaanites may eat us up. How if we want to go back? Would it not have been a more complete miracle if the Lord had parted the waters to let us come through and kept them parted to let us go back if we are disposed? My friends, God makes no mistakes. He knows the path all the way to Canaan. To go back is to die. The same God who parts the swing back the double line and opens the tall-sea gate of the Jordan to let Israel pass through now stands at the same Christ line and gate of the Jordan to keep the Israelites from going back. Victory ahead, but water 30 feet deep behind, sinking to death and darkness and woe. But you say: "Why did not these Canaanites, when they had such a splendid chance, by standing on the bank of the bank 30 or 40 feet high, completely demolish those poor Israelites down in the river?" I will tell you why. God had made a promise, and he was going to keep it. "There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life."

But this is no place for the host to stop. Joshua gives the command: "Forward, march!" In the distance there is a long grove of trees, and at the end of the grove is a city. It is a city with arbors, a city with walls seeming to reach to the heavens, buttress the very sky. It is the great metropolis that commands the mountain pass. It is Jericho. That city was afterward captured by Pompey and once by Herod the Great and once again by the Mohammedan host. The campaign the Lord plans. There shall be no swords, no shields, no battering ram. There shall be only one weapon of war and that a ram's horn. The horn of the slain ram was sometimes taken, and holds were punctured in it, and then the musician would put the instrument to his lips, and he would run his fingers over this rude musical instrument and make a great deal of sweet harmony for the people. That was the only kind of weapon. Seven priests were to take these rude rustic musical instruments, and they were to go around the city every day for six days—one a day for six days—and then one the seventh day they were to go around blowing these rude musical instruments seven times, and then at the close of the seventh blowing of the ram's horns on the seventh day the perforation of the whole scene was to be a shout, at which those great walls should tumble from cap stone to base.

Victory Follows Defeat.

The seven priests with the rude musical instruments pass all around the city walls on the first day and more on. No so much as a pebble rolled down from the wall, not so much as a cobweb was brushed off the battlements. Not a soldier fell. Not a spear was thrown. Not an arrow was shot. Not a sword was drawn. The Israelites marched around in perfect silence. Not a word was spoken. Not a whisper was heard. Not a sigh was breathed. Not a groan was uttered. Not a tear was shed. Not a drop of blood was spilled. Not a wound was inflicted. Not a life was lost. Not a battle was fought. Not a victory was won. Not a defeat was suffered. Not a banner was unfurled. Not a flag was flung to the breeze. Not a trumpet was blown. Not a drum was beaten. Not a musket was fired. Not a cannon was discharged. Not a sword was drawn. Not a spear was thrown. Not an arrow was shot.

[illegible]

No. 2.

Farm of 80 acres, well fenced, well watered—never-failing stream; 10 acres timber, 15 miles from Bloomfield Center and electric Railway to Detroit and Pontiac. Terms easy.

No. 23

It was formerly known as the "Wilde Farm" and contains about 160 acres of excellent land, well adapted for grazing or crops. It has about three-quarters of a mile frontage on both sides of Woodward Ave., adjoining the village of Birmingham to the north. The cars of the Detroit & Pontiac Electric Railway run each way every half hour and the Detroit & Milwaukee Railroad traverses the entire length of the farm. It has suitable buildings, good fences and a pretty brook of clear cold water runs through the meadow land, furnishing a never-failing supply for stock. This place must be sold within 90 days and we have put the very lowest possible price upon it which we can entertain. It can be bought for $10,000, one fourth cash and balance on easy terms. Think it over and let us know what your thoughts are only don't wait too long, for 90 days is the limit.

No. 26

One of the finest farms in the grand old township of Bloomfield, situated about five miles from the city limits, in the midst of a thickly settled community, with churches, schools, good roads and markets close at hand. The farm contains 80 acres and is [illegible]

No. 27.

[illegible]

No. 28.

[illegible]

No. 29.

[illegible]

No. 30.

[illegible]

No. 31.

[illegible]

No. 32.

[illegible]

No. 33.

[illegible]

No. 34.

[illegible]

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Real Estate Exchange

Of Whitehead & Mitchell at the Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Mich.

The following is a partial list of farms, city and village lots and real estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing, we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list:

No. 4.

Tenant house and two lots with 100 feet frontage on Saginaw St., and 97 feet deep. Cellar, well, cistern, etc. Price $800. Electric cars pass the door.

No. 1

[illegible]

No. 3.

[illegible]

No. 5.

Elegant house and lot 66 feet front and 90 rods deep on Maple Ave. East. Half acre. Fine barn and every modern convenience. Furnace, bath, closet, etc. Must be sold for what the buildings cost. Will exchange for improved village property for portion of the purchase price.

No. 6.

The VanEvery farm on the north shore of Wing Lake, 160 acres, two good houses, three barns, fine lake frontage, 15 acres fine orchard, timber. Easy and Selling. Boating and bathing. Terms easy.

No. 7.

The J. E. Quirk homestead in Birmingham, with 140 feet frontage on Saginaw St. and about 300 feet deep. New and well-built dwelling, good barn, fine lawn, shrubbery and small fruit. Electric cars pass the door every half hour for Detroit and Pontiac. Fare to "Old Cities, Pontiac and Over the River." For sale and must sell. Will make it as easy for any one to investigate this bargain. Make us an offer.

No. 8.

One of the best farms in Oakland county. It is almost enough to say when we tell you that it is the John Buttolph farm in the town of Troy, 120 acres, excellent buildings, two good flowing wells, carp pond well stocked, 3 miles of fine orchard, 5 miles from Birmingham, 3 miles straight south of Troy corners, where there is a church, store, postoffice, school, etc. Price low and terms easy.

No. 9.

Excellent farm on Gilbert Lake, about three miles from Birmingham, good buildings, fences in good shape and everything in good repair. Lovely location on the lake and fine fishing, boating and bathing. 50 acres of as fine farming and as desirable land in the county of Oakland. Will exchange in part for good improved city property. Thirty acres of good heavy timber. Farms very easy.

No. 10.

Large roomy two story house on Townsend St. in Birmingham, good barn, city water and all ordinary conveniences. Lot 66 feet front and 132 deep. Small fruit and neighborhood.

No. 11.

The old Squires farm in the township of Troy, one mile east of Birmingham, 50 acres, all cleared, 12 acres of the finest orchard, grafted and budded fruit. All the advantages of the village and none of the inconveniences. There are other things, but come and find out for yourself.

No. 12.

The Bailey farm in the town of Troy, 120 acres. Good farm buildings and farm. Bowling well at the barn which is the wonder and pride of Troy. 2 acres good bearing apple orchard, 2 acres grafted orchard. Quite a number of acres timber. Will sell or exchange for city property and will divide the two farms if required. Buildings on each tract. Price low and the man who comes first will secure one of the best bargains in the county. Look it up.

No. 13.

[illegible]

No. 14.

Two hundred and fourteen acres in sections 24 and 25, Southfield, with finest farm buildings in the township. Large and productive orchard of all kinds of best varieties of fruit, 10 acres of very heavy timber. Will sell or exchange for city property and will divide the two farms if required. Buildings on each tract. Price low and the man who comes first will secure one of the best bargains in the county. Look it up.

No. 18.

A small farm of five acres, being part of the estate of the late Hon. Thomas Palmer, in the township of Southfield, Oakland County. Four good dwelling houses, one of which is a fine two-story brick, with all modern conveniences, including hot and cold water, bath, etc. Price $4,000. Premises absolutely supplied with pure water from flowing well. Will sell with or without the barn, furniture or other personal property. Also 5 acres of land on the north side of Eight Mile Road, between Birmingham and Farmington, suitable for cultivation. House, two-story and basement, 10 rooms, with bath, hot and cold water, all modern conveniences, within three minutes' walk of the electric cars, which are running every half hour to Detroit, Pontiac and Birmingham, every room of which are finished in the natural woods and has a good school-house 80 rods from front gate. Barn for eight horses, with a small fruit orchard of bearing trees. Price $3,500, terms easy.

No. 19.

A farm of 100 acres in the township of Royal Oak, Oakland County, 4 miles from Birmingham, 4 miles from Detroit, 80 acres cleared, 20 acres timber, 2 acres orchard, house, barn, etc. Price $6,000, $2,000 cash, balance on long time at 6 per cent. Here is a good opportunity for a poor man to get a home on a short time. Call and get full description.

No. 20.

[illegible]

No. 21.

The Corson Homestead on Maple Ave., consisting of lots 7 and 8 of Corson's Addition to the village. Frontage along this locality on Maple Ave. is worth $25 per foot. Will sell for $6,000 or will make $4,500. Now, owing to the fact that Mr. Corson will not sell any more property, we will make $3,500, and it ought to be spot cash at that, but that can be arranged so that the terms need not worry you at all.

No. 22.

One hundred and ten acres in the township of Troy on section 30. Acres cleared, 75; acres timber, 35. Maple sugar orchard. Two miles from the Detroit, Rochester & Lake Orion Electric Railway, cars every half hour. Also 2 miles from the city hall, Detroit. Good wagon road to the city. Also 2 miles from the Detroit & Pontiac Electric Railway. Good wagon road with buses connecting with cars every half hour. Also 2 miles from the Detroit & Milwaukee Railroad. Also 2