

## RUSE OF THE GIBEONITES

A STORY OF THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN

By the "Highway and Byway" Preacher

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Scripture Authority:—Joshua chapter 9.

### SERMONETTE.

"And they asked not counsel at the mouth of the Lord."—These words explain why Israel failed to keep herself free from unholy alliances, and it is the explanation of every misstep of the Christian to-day.

The world is able to bamboozle the children of God because they look on the evidence which the world submits, rather than looking to God who giveth wisdom to all men for the asking.

To Israel the case seemed so plain, I suppose, that it seemed positively silly to ask God about it. Like the little boy who prayed for the protection of God only at night, because during the day he could take care of himself, so the Israelites thought that in the present situation they needed naught but their own judgment in deciding their course of action.

And it was just when they felt the wisest and most able to take care of themselves that the enemy turned the trick upon them.

Life is full of mistakes and tragedies because everybody else and everything else is consulted rather than the source of all light and all wisdom.

But how is God to be consulted about everything?

By subordination of the personal inclination and the conscious recognition of a higher will and higher purpose than our own.

By diligent use of our God-given powers, while at the same time there is an appreciation of the limitations of human wisdom and judgment.

By the exercise of patience. Take time to decide a point at issue. A misstep is taken through haste which prevents a clear reading of the sign-post at the intersection of the ways.

By the spirit of prayer pervading the life. Pray without ceasing is the Scriptural admonition. How? Surely not staying on bended knee in the secret chamber and audible repetition of words and phrases. Surely not by going about with closed eyes and mind absorbed in spiritual contemplations. Surely not by any outward cloak of sanctimoniousness. No. What then? Prayer is communion with God. And that communion consists in the conscious and unconscious domination of God in the life. It marks the perpetual attitude of the soul, so, that whether immersed in business for the time being, or what not, God's spirit is operative in the life. This is prayer without ceasing.

### THE STORY.

THERE seemed no way but for the Gibeonites to join forces with the federated kings in the proposed war upon Joshua and the armies of Israel. Never before had the entire country between Jordan and the great sea been so aroused as at the present time. Tidings of the coming of the hosts of Israel had reached the land while yet the Israelites were in the wilderness far to the south and west, but since the miraculous crossing of the Jordan and the destruction of Jericho and Ai the vague fears which had filled the minds of the inhabitants had taken definite form in the desperate resolve to unite and give battle to Israel.

That very day a deputation from the kings of the Hittites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, and others of the lesser tribes of the country urged them to make alliance in the common cause against Israel.

"It is plain," the messengers said, "that these Hebrews seek war. They arrogate unto themselves great importance, and have openly declared contempt for our gods. They have destroyed Jericho and Ai with the inhabitants thereof, and they would do so to us. And because of this, oh, men of Gibeon, the kings of all the country to the north and south and along the coast of the great sea are raising a great army to give battle to Israel, and have sent us to urge that your fighting men join them in this war."

This speech of the messengers was received with evident favor by the chief men of Gibeon who had been called together in council, and they would at once have given assent to the plan, had not old Second-Thought, as he was called—because of his invariable habit of saying: "Don't be in haste! Think it over! Think it over!"—counseled delay.

"We will be better able to give answer in the morning, after we have considered well the matter," he urged, and to this the rest had finally reluctantly agreed, and later, when they had come together to talk the matter over, old Second-Thought said:

"We all know the mighty things

which the people of Israel have done right before our eyes. Surely their God is a mighty God that he could make a pathway through the Jordan and lead his people dry shod right in our very midst. We have seen the smoke of Jericho and Ai ascending into heaven, and we know that the strong armies of those cities could not stand before Joshua and his men. Then why should we hope to be more successful than they? And even though the armies of the allies should be victorious, our country would be devastated, for it is here that the battle would be waged. Let us make league with Israel and thus save our lives and our city.

"But," quickly interposed several voices, "have you not heard that Israel will make no league with any of the inhabitants of the land, saying that their God has forbidden it?"

"True," assented the old sage, unperturbed by the seemingly insurmountable difficulty, "but let us disguise ourselves and come to them as from a far country. We shall put old sacks upon our asses, and old shoes and old garments upon us, and we shall take old and rent wine bottles and dry and moldy bread, and we will come to them, and tell them that we have heard in the far country the fame of their God and how mightily he has wrought and we have come to pay homage to him and to worship him. Peradventure they will hear us and will make league with us."

This plan at once met the approval of the chief men of Gibeon, and the next morning when they had sent the messengers of the kings away they at once began preparations to carry out the plan.

And they went to Joshua unto the camp at Gilgal. Their arrival created no little stir, and quickly Joshua and the chief men assembled, and the strangers were admitted to their presence, and to the statement that they had come from a far country, Joshua made answer:

"Our God has commanded us saying that we should not make league with any of the inhabitants of the land. Peradventure ye dwell among us."

"Nay, but from a far country are thy servants come," they replied. "Because of the name of the Lord thy God are we come. We have heard the fame of him and all that he did in Egypt, and all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites that were beyond Jordan, to Sihon king of Heshbon, and Og king of Bashan, which was at Ashtaroth. Wherefore our elders and all the inhabitants spake to us, saying: 'Take victuals with you for the journey, and go to meet them, and say unto them: We are your servants. Therefore now make a league with us.'"

"Nay," interrupted Joshua, "but how do we know that ye have come from a far country?"

Dramatically they turned, and lifting the covers from their provision baskets, they said: "Behold the evidence of our long journey. See this our bread we took hot out of the ovens on the day we came forth to come hither, and behold now it is dry and moldy. See these bottles of wine. When they were filled as we started they were new, and behold, now they are rent. And behold our garments and our shoes, for they have become old and ragged by reason of the very long journey."

Such seemingly indisputable evidence quickly swept away all doubt from the minds of the men who stood with Joshua, and they persuaded him that it would be well at once to make league with these people.

Joshua therefore made peace with them, and made a league with them to let them live. And the men gathered with him, the princes of the congregation, ratified the league.

During all this time the people of Israel were talking one with another concerning the coming of these strangers, and as they saw them depart and learned that a league had been made with them, they selected some of their number to follow these men, a thing which had not occurred to Joshua or to the princes with him to do.

As a result on the third day when these men returned they reported that the strangers had dealt with them deceitfully and had not come from a far country, but were really their neighbors living only a short distance from Gilgal. And they were wroth with Joshua and the princes for making the league and were for going at once against the Gibeonites, for, said they: "There is rich spoil in their cities which should be ours." But Joshua and the princes because of their oath which had been given, would not permit them so to do, but made the Gibeonites servants, that they would work for them continually.

### Makes Great Gains.

Cheering news comes to hand of the progress in Japan. Bishop Harris, who has charge of the American Methodist Missions in Korea and Japan, says that during the recent war the churches made great gains in membership, and that they are now unusually active in evangelistic efforts. As regards audiences, ministers of churches, baptisms, and the circulation of the Scriptures, things have not been so bright for a long time; and the gospel is receiving a better hearing than at any period since its introduction a generation ago. Another very healthy feature of Japanese Christianity reported by the Record of Christian Work, is the steady progress towards independence of foreign aid. In a short time it is hoped that the Japanese churches will be self-sustaining, and even become missionaries, sending out native teachers to China and Korea.

## THE AMERICAN HOME

### Wm. A. Radford

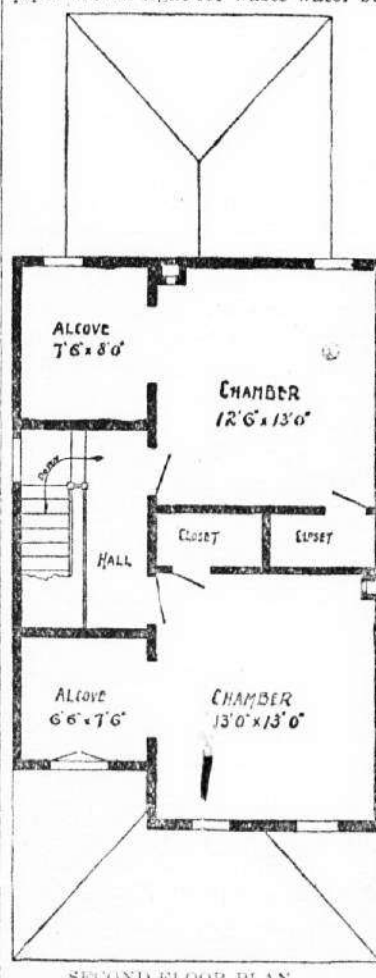
#### EDITOR

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 194 Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

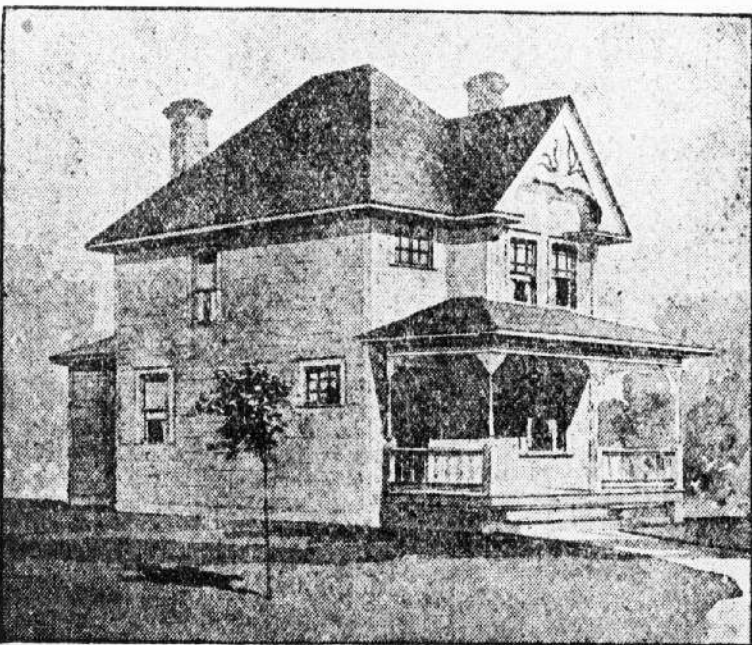
It is sometimes desirable to build a cheap house with a view of improving it in a few years' time. It is not necessary that a house should be unsightly because it is cheap. It may have a good appearance, the rooms may be of a fair size and conveniently arranged and the whole work, as far as it goes, may be just as well done as though planned for a more expensive structure. The size of the windows and doors, the placing of partitions, as well as the roof design, the placing of chimneys, bathrooms, and other modern requirements may be arranged in the plans much better than to have the house torn to pieces years afterward to rectify original mistakes. It is in just such work as this that plans and specifications are especially valuable. A study of the elevation and floor plan before commencing to build will suggest many details that will in all probability be necessary at some time.

All houses should be arranged for some kind of heating plant in the cellar. It is generally advisable to put gas pipes and electric wires in the walls. Inventions for heating and lighting are coming so thick and fast that new propositions come up every year. Farmers often make the remark that if they had a building to do over again, they would put in pipes with a view of putting in an acetylene gas generator. Electric door bells cost little more than any other kind and it costs but a few cents to buy enough wire to connect the bell with the battery at the time of building. If pipes and wires are put in the partitions when the house is being built

pense. The plans provide for a wooden drain under ground and lead pipes from the bath and sink with S traps constructed in such a manner as to prevent gases from the drain entering the house. Remember that lead pipes are all right for waste water but

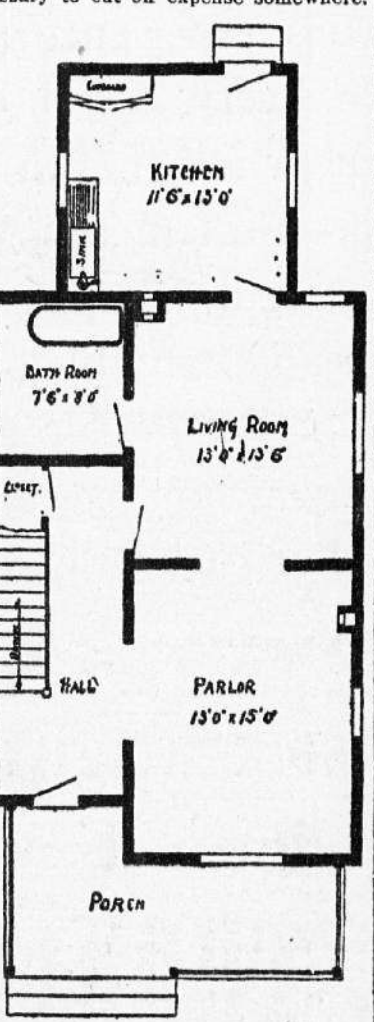


It should never be used for potable water. In building cheap houses the bath and kitchen sink are seldom thought of. Usually these are considered extravagances, but the fact



they may stay there for years until wanted for use. If they are not put in it means that the plaster must be broken, the floors cut to pieces and the good wife put to considerable extra work and annoyance or that the house never gets modern conveniences.

In building a cheap house it is necessary to cut off expense somewhere.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.

In this case the cellar is left for some future time and the house is set on cedar posts firmly planted in the ground and the house is neatly cased around with boards. The bathroom and kitchen sink are so placed that the water pipe from the cistern in the attic over the kitchen will supply running water to both at very little ex-

is the kitchen sink is one of the greatest labor savers a woman can have and a bath is no longer considered a luxury but it is an absolute necessity. If good health is taken into consideration. Good health is necessary for most persons but a good many seem to get along through the greater part of their lives in a sickly, half discouraged manner and these are the very ones who consider bathing unnecessary. A round wooden tank placed over the kitchen costs but a trifle of what it is really worth. Rain water from the upper roof will keep it supplied and a charcoal filter will fit the water for drinking purposes if so desired. The water should pass through the filter before entering the tank and the tank should be cleansed at least once a year.

Another saving in expense in this house is starting the chimneys from brackets six feet above the floor. This makes a short chimney and a light one that may be supported without heavy timbers. There is but little brick and mortar and the job of building the chimneys is a short one. It will be noticed that this plan offers plenty of light and ventilation for every room in the house and it provides for a good big convenient kitchen.

The size of this house is 22 feet wide by 42 feet exclusive of the porch. The main part of the house is only 22 by 30 feet. The 12 by 14 extension being small and only one story high adds but little to the cost and the convenience of having the kitchen arranged in this way is worth a great deal. It will be noticed that while there are only two bedrooms the two alcoves will furnish sleeping quarters for the children and the arrangement is a good one for a young couple while the children are small. This plan offers an inducement to own a home when starting out in married life instead of waiting until sufficient funds are saved to build a more expensive habitation.

It is difficult to estimate the cost of building because materials vary so much in price in different parts of the country, but under ordinary circumstances this house should be built, as shown in the plans, for about \$1,000. It certainly is a good looking house for that amount of money.

### IN THE RUSSIAN STYLE.

Curious National Customs Observed at a South Dakota Marriage.

A double wedding in the Russian colony at Rosedale, S. D., south of Alexandria, lasted through an entire day and into the evening. The names of the principals were Joseph Mandel and Katherine Hofer, and Michael Waldner and Katherine Gross.

The ceremony was begun in the morning in the little stone church, in which the old custom of the men and women sitting on opposite sides still prevails. The Russian priest delivered a long sermon, and at 11:20 o'clock he called the principals to the front of the edifice, the women going first and being followed by the young men. The ceremony proper was spoken in Russian, and lasted but a short time. It was followed by a prayer and a song and then brides and bridegrooms returned to their separate seats.

The bridal costumes of the couples were very simple, the maidens wearing flannelette gowns with a handkerchief tied over their heads. The bridegrooms, however, were dressed a little more fastidiously, in that they wore regular wedding suits, chief of which was a long coat. A peculiarity about the coat is that it is worn by every bridegroom in the settlement, two coats being kept in the settlement in case of a double wedding, and whether the bridegroom be tall or short, large or small, the coat must do its duty.

With the ceremony over, the guests and the bridal couples went to the eating house, where a big dinner composed of noodle soup, bread, beef, sauerkraut, whiskey and wine was served. The women occupied one long table and the men another, but the bridal couples were allowed to sit together. With the dinner over came the interesting part of the ceremony, and that is the love scene which follows a Russian wedding. The company went to what is called the love-room in one of the houses, where before the assembled crowd the brides and bridegrooms sat with arms around each other, billing and cooing, oblivious to the comments and watchful eyes of the others. As a sort of break in the monotony for the brides one of the young ladies filled the aprons of the brides with peanuts and candy, which they munched with complacency as the joyous festivities proceeded. At nine o'clock the love scene broke up and the day of the wedding came to an end.

### Queer Things Made From Milk.

You could build a house of milk, if you liked, and it would be as strong and lasting as though made of Aberdeen granite, says M. Glen Fling in Technical World Magazine. Moreover, all the fittings could be made of the same substance, and they would outlive the finest ordinary material that was ever constructed.

Billiard balls, combs, fancy boxes and many other things are made from the new substance, galalith, which is made from milk.

There is really no limit to the articles which can be made from galalith. It takes dyes readily and inferior grades are colored. The best remain white, however, for white galalith brings the highest price because of its similarity to ivory. The first grade of white galalith is made up into knife handles, and it brings almost as high a figure as would so much ivory.

Galalith is the best substitute for ivory ever discovered, for it is smooth to the touch, retains its soft, creamy tinting for years, is not marred by soap and water and, unlike celluloid, is proof against fire. It does not chip or crack like bone, and can be cut into the most delicate shapes, being tough and not easily broken.

In Austria something like 100,000 quarts of skimmed milk are used daily for the purpose of making galalith, and the industry is largely on the increase. The article describes the process of making this queer substance.

### Didn't Come in Blue.

A woman who wanted soap of a certain make asked for a blue cake. "It doesn't come in blue," said the clerk. "It is made in yellow, white and green."

The woman seemed disappointed, and finally bought another brand of soap in the desired tint. "That is a queer fad," said the clerk, when she had gone out. "Many women are carrying the color scheme to such extremes nowadays that they use soap that matches the furnishings of the room. In order to meet this demand manufacturers are turning out soaps that almost every known tint. The color they are most deficient in is blue."

### The Divine Collapsed.

A certain eminent preacher in a little New England town was asked by one of his flock who was more noted for his wit than his religious tendencies, if he had heard the latest definition of Intemperance and Eternity. He replied that he had not, and received the following definition:

"That intemperance was a wife of the devil, and eternity was a devil of a while!"

### Kaiser's Appointment Startles.

Emperor William has startled Germany by appointing Bruno Paul, the caricaturist of Simplicissimus, to be director of the Berlin Industrial Art school. Herr Paul's appointment is a triumph for secessionist art and may signify the death blow to many old-fashioned ideas.

## A SIMPLE FORMULA

PRESCRIPTION OF AN EMINENT SPECIALIST IS GIVEN.

Necessary Ingredients Cost Little and Can Be Secured at Any Good Drug Store—Will Break a Cold Quickly.

Mix half ounce of the Pure Virgin Oil of Pine with two ounces of glycerine and half a pint of good whiskey shake well and use in teaspoonful doses. A noted authority on diseases of the throat and lungs who established a camp for consumptives in the pine woods of Maine, declares that the above formula will heal the lungs and cure any cough that is curable. It will break up a cold in twenty-four hours. The ingredients can be secured from any good prescription druggist at small cost.

Virgin Oil of Pine (Pure) is put up only in half-ounce vials for dispensing; each vial is securely sealed in a round wooden case with engraved wrapper, showing the name—Virgin Oil of Pine (Pure) prepared only by Leach Chemical Co., Cincinnati, Ohio—plainly printed thereon. There are many rank imitations of Virgin Oil of Pine (Pure), which are put out under various names, such as Concentrated Oil of Pine, Pine Balsam, etc. Never accept these as a substitute for the Pure Virgin Oil of Pine, as they will invariably produce nausea and never effect the desired result.

Virgin Oil of Pine (Pure) is also said to be a perfect neutralizing agent for uric acid.

### Can You Answer?

If you have a friend who thinks he knows it all ask him to explain the difference between an Alexandrian and a woman of Alexandria; a masquerade and a mashe; adenoids and aneroids; six of one and a half dozen of the other; neoplatonism and platonic friendship; macaroni, macaroni, and Marconi; a referendum and a referee; irreligion and birreligion; the jungle and Port Sunlight; Armenians and Armenians; a carpet knight and a rag headed kern.—Chicago Tribune.

### Always to Be Depended Upon.

When a person gets up in the morning with a dull headache and a tired, stretchy feeling, it's an almost certain indication that the liver, or bowels, or both, are decidedly out of order.

At such times Nature, the wisest and best of doctors, takes this means to give warning that she needs the help and gentle assistance which can best be obtained from that old family remedy, Brandreth's Pills, which has been in use for over a century.

They are the same fine laxative tonic pill your grandparents used when doctors were few and far between, and when people had to have a remedy that could absolutely be depended upon.

Brandreth's Pills can be depended upon, and are sold in every drug and medicine store, plain or sugar-coated.

### MEN STILL LIVE IN CAVES.

Troglodytic Villages Are Found in Northern Africa.

Grottoes and caverns are used more or less as shelters by primitive peoples and thus inhabited caves are of course most frequent in Africa. A considerable number of natives make their homes in caves along the southern shore of the Strait of Gibraltar and in some of those caves are found the polished stones and arrow heads of the stone age. Troglodytic villages are frequent in the Tebessa territory of Algeria, one of which, at Djéart, 250 feet above the gorge of the Wadi Hallal, is reached by steps cut in the rock.

The inhabitants of the Tunisian island of Galite are cave dwellers, their habitations being grottoes which they have dug out of the limestone, or ancient burial caverns that they have enlarged. The subterranean villages of Matmata and of Medenine, hewn out of the rock, are in southern Tunisia.

A Christian monastery built underground in the twelfth century still exists at Goba, Abyssinia. The enormous cavern discovered several years ago within two hours' walk of the port of Tanga, in German East Africa, contains rooms the roofs of which are from 120 to 250 feet above the floor. Only a few of these vast chambers have yet been explored, for the entire cavern seems to be inhabited by millions of bats. One of these killed with a stick measured nearly five feet across its extended wings.

### COSTLY PRESSURE.

Heart and Nerves Fail on Coffee.

A resident of a great western state puts the case regarding stimulants with a comprehensive brevity that is admirable. He says:

"I am 56 years old and have had considerable experience with stimulants. They are all alike—mortgage on reserved energy at a high interest. As the whip stimulates but does not strengthen the body, do stimulants act upon the body system. Feeling this way, I gave up coffee and all other stimulants and began the use of Postum Food coffee a few months ago. The beneficial result has been apparent from the first. The rheumatism that I used to suffer from has left me. I sleep sounder, my nerves are steadier and my brain clearer. And I bear testimony also to the food value of Postum—something that is lacking in coffee." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. There's a reason. Read "The P. & W. Wellville," the quaint little book that tells the