

service, which the Lord God had provided for them? At that time the holy spirit had not been 'poured out on all flesh'. (Joel 2: 28, 29) Now call to mind what did take place, and let your hope be increased and rejoice.

<sup>27</sup> As Joshua was in command of the Israelites, so the Greater Joshua, Christ Jesus, was leading his people at the time above mentioned in fulfillment of the prophetic drama: "And it came to pass, after three days, that the officers went through the host." (Josh. 3: 2) The "three days" here mentioned corresponds to the three years, 1919 to 1922, during which time there was much speculation as to the meaning of God's Word, and particularly the "elective elder" element were putting forth many prognostications. Some of the faithful ones exhorted to boldness, while others grew timid and frightened and insisted on holding back, not attempting to move forward. *The Watchtower* August 1, 15, 1919, carried articles "Blessed Are the Fearless", and dwelt upon Elisha's course at the Jordan and the miracle there performed by the parting of the waters. The Cedar Point convention of that year was the beginning of the public discussion of these important questions. A special issue of the *Golden Age* magazine, much of the contents of which had been written behind prison walls, was published and shortly thereafter four million copies were distributed, and which exposed the religionists who had led and were leading in the opposition to the message of God's kingdom. When that issue of *The Golden Age* was ready for distribution, some objected and complained against distributing it, charging that the movement was the result only of the opinion of one man and that the bold ones were following a man, whereas the objectors preferred to give heed to the one who once led them and who was then dead, and they put forth that as an excuse for doing nothing for the advancement of the work. Rather they insisted that the Lord's people should sit still and talk about love and not attack the enemy. Those objectors at least doubted and denied that the Lord was any longer using the Watch Tower. A great shaking was the result, which well compared to the lodging overnight beside the raging waters of the Jordan with no human means of getting across. Both in the picture and in the antitype the faithful trusted the Lord. And so it is written that "the officers went through the host" at the command of Joshua; and this corresponds to A.D. 1922, when at the command of the Lord the faithful went about amongst the people of God to encourage them to become active and zealous in the service.

<sup>28</sup> Joshua had given command to his officers, which they were obeying, even as Christ Jesus, the Greater Joshua, directed his servants in 1922. "And they

commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it." (Josh. 3:3) Those organization instructions in the antitype proceeded from the Greater Joshua, Christ Jesus, and were transmitted by his servants to the consecrated people through the earth. Upon the ancient ark of the covenant rested the Shekinah light, showing the presence of Jehovah. As Jehovah is the head over Christ Jesus, the ark there pictured Christ Jesus, under the command of the Almighty.—Pss. 80:1; 99:1; 1 Cor. 11:3.

<sup>29</sup> The substance of the message or command transmitted to the faithful was this: When you see that the Lord Jehovah God, as represented by his Messenger, Christ Jesus, is at the temple (Mal. 3:1), in the drama pictured by the ark, then is the time to move forward, and then follow the Lord's commandment, and not man's leading. "Follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth." (Rev. 14:4) The Israelites on the banks of the Jordan no longer had the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night to lead them. They must look to and follow the ark of the covenant. So with the coming of Christ Jesus to the temple, no longer did the holy spirit serve as a guide to the consecrated, but the Lord Jesus, the antitypical ark of the covenant, the representative of Jehovah, from that time onward guides and directs the movement of his people. Those who have failed to see Christ at the temple have fallen completely away.

<sup>30</sup> The priests of the Israelites bearing the ark on their shoulders were more than half a mile ahead of the rest of Israel, and they were leading the march: "Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go; for ye have not passed this way heretofore."—Josh. 3:4.

<sup>31</sup> The people could see the ark, and they were following its lead. From 1919 onward Christ Jesus, the antitypical ark, then and since at the temple, by faith is seen or discerned to be there and he is guiding and leading all those devoted to him and to Jehovah God. In 1919 and thereafter Jehovah's witnesses needed the leadership of Christ Jesus, for they were now engaged in a work that led them over untrodden paths. It was a new work, different from that of the "Elijah period" of service. It is now easy to be seen that it was hard at that time, in 1919, for some to let go the leadership of a man whom they had understood to be that "faithful and wise servant" and the "seventh messenger". They found it difficult to let go the *Scripture Studies* and the *Daily Manna* book, and to strike out for further

work and look for a clearer revelation from the Word of God. Some tenaciously held to and contended that all the truth that is ever to be revealed had at that time been given to the man then dead, and they declared that it was wrong to look further for spiritual food. Their loss has been great. As to the others, who trusted Jehovah and willingly followed Christ Jesus, they moved forward, and they continued to do so, and great has been their blessing.

<sup>22</sup> Joshua gave further organization instructions to the people, which were transmitted to them by his subordinate officers, picturing the servants of the Lord acting under the direction of Christ Jesus: "And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves; for to morrow the Lord will do wonders among you." (Josh. 3:5) This meant that with the beginning of the antitypical march in 1919 those who would go forward must sanctify themselves, that is to say, set themselves wholly to the service of Jehovah, his King and his kingdom. Beginning in 1919 *The Watchtower* is the means employed by the Lord Jesus to transmit to his people organization instructions, and since has exhorted those who love God and his kingdom to fearlessly devote themselves to Jehovah and his work so as to be counted worthy to be used in his kingdom service. They are urged to be faithful and zealous, that they may see the wonders God now does among them and for them. Little did the Israelites appreciate the wonders God would work, and likewise little did the antitypical Israelites from 1919 onward see and appreciate the wonders God would do among them and for them and what he would reveal to them from his Word. As the years have advanced Jehovah has unfolded one prophecy after another and by the hand of Christ Jesus has led his people and opened their eyes to his great treasure house and laid before them opportunities of service and filled them with unspeakable joy. The faithful throughout the earth today bear testimony to this fact.

<sup>23</sup> Specific commandment was then given to the priests: "And Joshua spake unto the priests, saying, Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass over before the people. And they took up the ark of the covenant, and went before the people." (Josh. 3:6) This part of the prophetic drama shows Christ Jesus, the Greater Joshua, issuing his orders and instructions to the faithful servants from and after 1922. As the priests of Israel were carrying the ark on their shoulders, so since 1922 the servants of the Lord must bear with great joy the burden which the Lord puts upon their shoulders. They must show not only willingness in service, but great joy, and that they fully acknowledge, support and greatly rejoice in Jehovah God and Christ Jesus as the sole "Higher Powers". This is further pictured in

the prophecy of Ezekiel one, showing Jehovah riding upon his organization. It was in the year 1922 that Jehovah commissioned the faithful servants of Christ on earth to do service by pouring out upon all of the truly consecrated his spirit, as prophesied at Joel 2:28, 29. In obedience to that commission the faithful took up the work as commanded and went forth with it. This was well shown by what occurred at the Cedar Point convention in 1922. It was then that the Lord revealed to his people that Christ Jesus is at the temple, and there Jehovah's witnesses, seeing and understanding this great truth for the first time, gave increased expression of joy by moving into action. Attention was there called to the prophecy of the Lord by Isaiah (6:8), to wit: "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me." In calling attention to that prophecy the speaker on the occasion said to the assembled witnesses: "Herald the message far and wide; the world must know that Jehovah is God and that Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords. This is the day of all days. Behold the King reigns! You are his publicity agents. Therefore advertise, advertise, advertise the King and his kingdom!" The response was electrical, accompanied by shouts of joy from those present, and the witnesses moved into action even as the faithful moved at the command of Joshua.

<sup>24</sup> The day of the Lord had come. "And the Lord said unto Joshua, This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee." (Josh. 3:7) Thus the prophetic drama discloses that the time has come to magnify Christ Jesus the King because this is "the day of the Lord Jesus", "the day of Christ." (1 Cor. 5:5; 2 Cor. 1:14; 2 Thess. 2:1) Since coming to the temple in 1918 Christ Jesus has been reigning and performing the office of Judge of the people and Vindicator of Jehovah's name. Making this fact known is magnifying Christ Jesus in the sight of the people. With ever increasing understanding the faithful have appreciated and continue to grow in appreciation of the fact that no man, dead or alive, leads them, but that Christ Jesus, the Elect Servant of Jehovah now at the temple, is in full charge of Jehovah's work and is leading those who joyfully serve him. The time has come for Jehovah to accomplish his work on earth by the hand of Christ Jesus, and he would have the people to understand that, as he was with Moses, so he is with Christ Jesus and with those who faithfully follow in his steps. This is further assurance that the Lord continues to use the same Society as his earthly and visible organization to