

of them many miles distant from the city. Ordinarily there were not a great many people in the city. When an enemy had approached the people would leave the open country and crowd in behind the powerful walls of the city. There was thus ~~not~~ a city of refuge than a permanent settlement for most of them. They could endure extremely crowded conditions for a short time until the enemy should pass on. The excavations showed that the area contained within the walls was comparatively small. One could ~~be~~ easily walk around the entire city in under an hour.

One thing that impressed me when I was at Jericho was the very fine fountain of water that gushed out of the ground there. This was undoubtedly the primary reason for the founding of a city at this place. There is a perpetual supply of excellent water here. Many think that this is the fountain that is described in 2 Kings as having become poison at one time and having been cleansed by the Prophet Elijah.

We notice in the verses that we read that the curse pronounced upon the city by Joshua declares that whoever should rebuild Jericho should set up the gates of it with the loss of his youngest son. First Kings describes this as having actually occurred. This doubtless means that an accident occurred in the setting up of the gates resulting in the death of the youngest son of the leader of the work. During the last three or four years, Prof. G. of the University of Liverpool has been carrying on further excavations at Jericho. He has excavated the gates of the city and under them he has found the skeleton of a young man. Prof. G. observed closely the arrangement of the stones of the wall as they were found. He and pere F. issued a joint statement in which they declared that the walls lay in such a position that there could be no doubt of their having fallen over in some great upheaval. Thus, we have many of the details of the account of the conquest of Jericho substantiated by the excavation.

The next incident in the Book of Joshua ~~is~~ <sup>after</sup> the conquest of Jericho was the attempted conquest of Ai. This city was a short distance north of Jericho and the two of them together formed the key to the entrance

they discovered how they had been tricked and to discover that the chief