

the experience of every Christian. There are two sides of the matter, and neither can safely be left out of account. Our present passage stresses the faith aspect, and this aspect is extremely vital. Unless we see God's *leading*/hand leading us and are ready to follow wherever He leads, we cannot expect success in our wilderness journey. Yet God has not made us automatons. He does not desire puppets, which jump whenever He pulls the cord, but have no mind of their own. He desires His people to learn to use their intelligence, and to follow Him because they love Him. Our earthly life is a period of training, in which He has many things to teach us.

The very next portion of this section shows that extreme conclusions must not be drawn. If it had been sufficient that all the people should see the guiding pillar, x.1-10 would not have provided a method of signalling, so that the leaders could tell the people when to start and how to proceed. Later, in chapter xi, we find Moses urging his father-in-law, who was familiar with the wilderness, to stay with the people and give them the benefit of his experience in selecting their camping places. In chapter xiii we learn that God commanded that spies be sent to search out the land of Canaan. When Joshua planned to attack Jericho, he first sent spies into the city. It is God's will that His people should use ordinary foresight, and do their best to plan wisely. This side of the matter was stressed by the Lord Himself in Lk. xiv.28-32. It is the Lord's will that all human means be utilized, but that His overruling control be constantly kept in mind.

b. The silver trumpets (x.1-10)

After explaining the general rule for guidance, God provides a means by which the leaders can order united action by the entire host. Two trumpets of silver are to be made for use in calling an assembly and for the journeying of the camp. Trumpet (2). Heb. hasoserah, a tube about 18 inches long with a flared end; not