

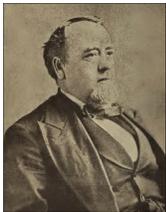
# Jackson Preparing For Battle



**General Jackson preparing for battle**  
1899, *The Life of Gen. Thos. Jackson In Easy Words For The Young*, 185.

This picture has often been used to illustrate the *prayer life* of *Thomas Jonathan Jackson* and has been used in at least two ways. The first illustration is taken from *Mary Lynn Williamson's* published work entitled *The Life of Gen. Thos. J. Jackson In Easy Words For Youth*: “*His corps moved forward, and, on August 9th, fought the battle of Cedar Run. In this fierce battle one of the regiments began to fall back. At that instant Jackson placed himself at the head of the column, drew his sword, and cried in a voice of thunder, ‘Rally, brave men! Jackson will lead you! Follow me!’ This turned the tide of battle, and the Federal army broke into full retreat. Just before this battle, some officers enquired of ‘Jim,’ the General’s servant, if there were any signs of a battle. ‘Oh, yes, sir,’ replied he, ‘the General is a great man for praying night and morning, all times; but when I see him get up in the night*

*and go off and pray, then I know there is going to be something to pay; and I go right straight and pack his haversack, for I know he will call for it in the morning.’”*<sup>1</sup>



**J. William Jones**  
1887, *Christ In The Camp Or Religion In Lee’s Army*, cover

The second illustration is seen with *Jackson praying* and **General Richard S. Ewell** looking on. Taken from the 1888 published work entitled *Christ in the Camp: Or, Religion in Lee’s Army* by **John William Jones** – it says this, “*I have it from a well-authenticated source that the conversion of Lieutenant-General Ewell, Jackson’s able lieutenant, was on this wise: At a council of war, one night, Jackson had listened very attentively to the views of his subordinates, and asked until the next morning to*

*present his own. As they came away, A. P. Hill laughingly said to Ewell, ‘Well! I suppose Jackson wants time to pray over it.’ Having occasion to return to his quarters again a short time after, Ewell found Jackson on his knees and heard his ejaculatory prayers for God’s guidance in the perplexing movements then before him. The sturdy veteran Ewell was so deeply impressed by this incident and by Jackson’s general religious character, that he said: ‘If that is religion, I must have it;’ and in making a profession of faith not long afterwards he attributed his conviction to the influence of Jackson’s piety.”*<sup>2</sup>



**Richard S. Ewell**  
1918, *Life of Thomas J. Jackson*, p. 127

---

<sup>1</sup> Mary L. Williamson, *The Life of Gen. Thos. J. Jackson In Easy Words For Youth* (Richmond: B. F. Johnson Publishing Company, 1899), 183-184.

<sup>2</sup> John William Jones, *Christ in the Camp: Or, Religion in Lee’s Army, Supplemented By A Sketch Of The Work In The Other Confederate Armies* (Richmond: B. F. Johnson & Company, 1888), 97.