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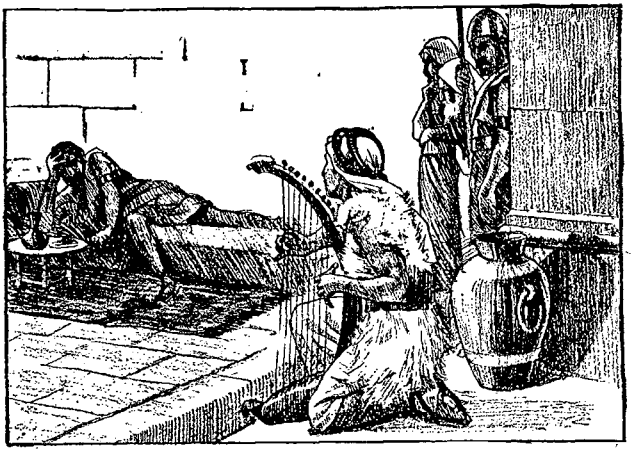

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON QUARTERLY

SENIOR DIVISION
Second Quarter, 1928

Lessons from
THE LIFE OF DAVID

Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, June 30, 1928
JAPAN AND KOREA

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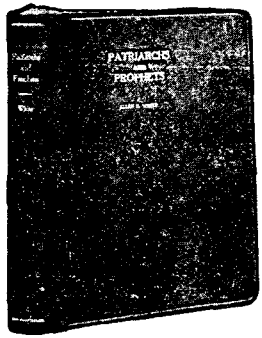

THE Sabbath school lessons for the second quarter of 1928 are entitled "Lessons from the Life of David." That wonderful book, "Patriarchs and Prophets," is the Lesson Help. Every lesson of the quarter refers to this book. It is impossible to quote extensively from the "Help," and keep the Quarterly the proper size; hence, every student will want to own a copy of "Patriarchs and Prophets" for study from week to week. The trade edition of the book is the most serviceable for this purpose.

Price, cloth binding, $2.25; leather, $3.25.
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LESSON 1

THE ANOINTING OF DAVID

April 7, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 16.

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES: Psalms 19; 23.

MEMORY VERSE: "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my Redeemer." Ps. 19:14.

LESSON HELP: "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 634-644.

TIME: About 1063 B. C. David was probably in his early teens.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1 **Seniors:** Read 1 Sam. 16:1-23. Repeat the memory verse each day. Read selections from the Lesson Help each day.
Children: Study paragraphs 1-3 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1-3, and notes 1, 2 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may also learn the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 171-176, as a study help, reading portions each day.

2. **Seniors:** Study Questions 1-3, Reasons for rejecting Saul. Young people may study corresponding portion in youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
Children: Study paragraphs 4-6 of the primary lesson, or Questions 4-6 of the junior lesson.

3. **Seniors:** Study Questions 4-10, Scene of David's anointing. Young people may study corresponding portion in the youth's lesson.
Children: Study paragraphs 7-9 of the primary lesson, or Questions 7-11 of the junior lesson.

4. **Seniors:** Study Questions 11-14, Character and composition of the Psalms. Young people study the corresponding portion in the youth's lesson.
Children: Study paragraphs 10, 11 of the primary lesson, or Questions 12-14 and note 3 of the junior lesson.

5. **Seniors:** Study Questions 15-17, Association with Saul. Young people study corresponding portion in the youth's lesson.
Children: Study paragraphs 12-15 of the primary lesson, or Questions 15-18 and notes 4-7 of the junior lesson.

6. **Seniors:** Read Psalms 19 and 23. Youth join in suggested reading. Consider "Meditation Topics."
Children: Tell the story of the lesson from memory. Juniors join in telling the story and study topics under "Told in Other Chapters."

7. Review the lesson by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review the memory verse and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. What were the distinguishing qualities of Saul, Israel's first king? 1 Sam. 9:2.

NOTE.—"The personal qualities of the future monarch were such as to gratify that pride of heart which prompted the desire for a king. . . . Of noble and dignified bearing, in the prime of life, comely and tall, he appeared like one born to command."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 608.

2. Under what circumstances did Saul disobey a divine command? How was his great sin regarded by the Lord? 1 Sam. 15:2, 3, 7-9, 23.

NOTE.—"When reproved by the prophet at Gilgal, Saul saw no great sin in the course he had pursued. He felt that he had been treated unjustly, and endeavored to vindicate his actions, and offered excuses for his error."—Id. p. 627.

3. What kind of king did the people desire? What did they eventually realize that God had given them? 1 Sam. 12:13.

NOTE.—"They had not sought counsel from God as to the qualities a ruler should possess, in order to preserve their distinctive, holy character as His chosen people. They were not seeking God's way, but their own way. Therefore God gave them such a king as they desired,—one whose character was a reflection of their own."—Id., p. 636.

4. After rejecting Saul as king, what instruction did God give Samuel? 1 Sam. 16:1.

5. To relieve Samuel's fears, what plan was given him? Verses 2, 3.

6. Who was called to the sacrifice? Verses 4, 5.

7. Who among the sons of Jesse would Samuel have chosen as king? Verse 6.

8. Why had God not chosen him? Verse 7.

9. When seven sons had passed before Samuel, what did he ask? Who was sent for? Verse 11.

10. How is David's appearance described? What command did the Lord give to Samuel? Verse 12.

11. Where did David get his training for service?

NOTE.—"The home of Samuel was a peaceful place in contrast with the royal palace. It was here, amid the hills, that the honored servant of the Lord continued his work. A company of seers was with him, and they studied closely the will of God, and listened reverently to the words of instruction that fell from the lips of Samuel. Precious were the lessons that David learned from the teacher of Israel."—Id., p. 653.

"These schools [the schools of the prophets] proved to be one of the means most effective in promoting that righteousness which 'exalteth a nation.' In no small degree they aided in laying the foundation of that marvelous prosperity which distinguished the reigns of David and Solomon. The principles taught in the schools of the prophets were the same that molded David's character and shaped his life."—"Education," pp. 47, 48.

12. What evidence of God's approval followed the anointing of David? Verse 13.

NOTE.—"The great honor conferred upon David did not serve to elate him. Notwithstanding the high position which he was to occupy, he quietly continued his employment, content to await the development of the Lord's plans in His own time and way. As humble and modest as before his anointing, the shepherd boy returned to the hills, and watched and guarded his flocks as tenderly as ever. But with new inspiration he composed his melodies, and played upon his harp."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 641.

13. Upon what did David meditate during these years? What was his occupation? What effect was consequently produced upon his life and upon succeeding generations? Psalm 8.

NOTE.—"In contemplation of God and His works, the faculties of David's mind and heart were developing and strengthening for the work of his after life. He was daily coming into a more intimate communion with God. . . . The communion with nature and with God, the care of his flocks, the perils and deliverances, the griefs and joys, of his lowly lot, were not only to mold the character of David, and to influence his future life, but through the psalms of Israel's sweet singer, they were, in all coming ages, to kindle love and faith in the hearts of God's people, bringing them nearer to the ever-loving heart of Him in whom all His creatures live."—Id., p. 642.

14. What do we find reflected in David's psalms? Ans.—His own experience.

NOTE.—"His [David's] soul is reflected in the psalms that must be attributed to this period of his life, because so free from the pressure of sorrow and anxiety, and the strife of tongues. Among them are the eighth, nineteenth, twenty-third, and twenty-ninth."—"David," F. B. Meyer, p. 15.

"The Psalms are a rich repository of experimental knowledge. David, at the different periods of his life, was placed in almost every situation in which a believer, whether rich or poor, can be placed."—"Treasury of David," Vol. I, p. 145.

15. Describe Saul's mental condition at this time. 1 Sam. 16:14.

NOTE.—"When King Saul realized that he had been rejected by God, and when he felt the force of the words of denunciation that had been addressed to him by the prophet, he was filled with bitter rebellion and despair. It was not true repentance that had bowed the proud head of the king. He had no clear perception of the offensive character of his sin, and did not arouse to the work of reforming his life, but brooded over what he thought was the injustice of God in depriving him of the throne of Israel, and in taking the succession away from his posterity. He was ever occupied in anticipating the ruin that had been brought upon his house. He felt that the valor which he had displayed in encountering his enemies, should offset his sin of disobedience. He did not accept with meekness the chastisement of God; but his haughty spirit became desperate, until he was on the verge of losing his reason."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 643.

16. What remedy was suggested to and used by Saul? How did he regard David? Verses 16, 21-23.

17. How did the servant of Saul describe David? Verse 18.

MEDITATION TOPICS

Unquestioning obedience by Jesse and his family to the prophet's summons.

Humility after anointing.

Value to children of quiet life in natural surroundings.

LESSON 2

DAVID AND GOLIATH

April 14, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 1 Sam. 17:1-54.

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE: Psalm 27.

MEMORY VERSE: "The Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands." 1 Sam. 17:47.

LESSON HELPS: "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 644-648; "Testimonies," Vol. 3, pp. 218, 219.

TIME: David was probably about twenty years of age.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. Seniors: Read the Lesson Scripture. Repeat the memory verse each day. Read selections from the Lesson Help each day.
   Children: Study paragraphs 1-3 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1-4 and notes 1-4 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may also learn the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 177-182 as a study help, reading portions each day.
2. Seniors: Study Questions 1-5, Israel and Goliath. Young people may study the corresponding portion in the youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraphs 4-8 of the primary lesson, or Questions 5-10 and note 5 of the junior lesson.
3. Seniors: Study Questions 6-8, David hears the challenge. Young people may study corresponding portion in youth's lesson.
   Children: Study paragraphs 9, 10 of the primary lesson, or Questions 11-13 and note 6 of the junior lesson.
4. Seniors: Study Questions 9-11, David and Saul. Young people may study corresponding portion in the youth's lesson.
   Children: Study paragraph 11 of the primary lesson, or Questions 14, 15, and note 7 of the junior lesson.
5. Seniors: Study Questions 12-16, Combat and result. Young people may study corresponding portion in the youth's lesson.
   Children: Primary and junior pupils may tell the story of the lesson from memory.
6. Seniors and Youth: Read Psalm 27. Consider "Meditation Topics."
   Children: Primary and junior pupils study following topics: What was Rebekah's sin? Jacob's? Esau's? What blame, if any, is attached to Isaac? How many ways was a lie told in this lesson? When one lie is told, what then seems to be necessary?
7. Seniors and Youth: Review the lessons by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review memory verses and memory gem.
   Children: Review the lesson by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review memory verses and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. With whom was Israel at war? What was the arrangement of the camp of the army of Israel, and that of their enemies? 1 Sam. 17:1-3.

2. Who was the champion of the Philistines? How is Goliath described? Verses 4-7.

3. What challenge did he make to the hosts of Israel? Verses 8-10.

4. What effect did this challenge have upon Israel? Verse 11.

5. How long had Goliath thus defied their armies? Verse 16.

6. Upon what errand was David sent? By whom? Verses 17, 18.

NOTE.—"When war was declared by Israel against the Philistines, three of the sons of Jesse joined the army under Saul; but David remained at home. After a time, however, he went to visit the camp of Saul. By his father's direction he was to carry a message and a gift to his elder brothers, and to learn if they were still in safety and health. But, unknown to Jesse, the youthful shepherd had been intrusted with a higher mission. The armies of Israel were in peril, and David had been directed by an angel to save his people."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 644, 645.

7. How did the Philistine's challenge affect David? Verse 26.

NOTE.—"When David saw that all Israel were filled with fear, and learned that the Philistine's defiance was hurled at them day after day, without arousing a champion to silence the boaster, his spirit was stirred within him. He was fired with zeal to preserve the honor of the living God and the credit of his people."—Id., p. 645.

8. How did his brethren regard his courage? In spite of their reproof, what spirit did David continue to show? Verses 28-30.

NOTE.—"Even as a shepherd, David had manifested daring, courage, and strength but rarely witnessed; and the mysterious visit of Samuel to their father's house, and his silent departure had awakened in the minds of the brothers suspicions of the real object of his visit." —Ibid.

9. To whose ears did David's words come? When brought before Saul, what courageous words did he speak? What was Saul's reply? Verses 31-33.

10. In telling Saul of his strength, whom did David acknowledge as his deliverer? What was his confidence regarding Goliath? Verses 34-37.

NOTE.—"No one but himself had looked upon it in the right light, as a conflict between light and darkness, truth and error, religion and idolatry."—Wm. J. Deane.

11. What efforts were made to afford David protection? Why could not David use Saul's armor? Verses 38, 39.

NOTE.—"David, in his humility and zeal for God and His people, proposed to meet this boaster. . . . To put on Saul's armor would give the impression that he was a warrior, when he was only little David, who tended the sheep. He did not mean that any credit should be given to the armor of Saul; for his trust was in the Lord God of Israel."—"Testimonies," Vol. 3, p. 219.

12. What striking contrast appeared in the equipment of these two champions as they met for battle? Verses 4-7, 40.

13. With what words did the giant approach David? Verses 43, 44.

14. What reply did David make? What did David greatly desire the whole world should learn from this conflict? Verses 45-47.

15. What was the result of this personal combat? Verses 48-51.

NOTE.—"It is not too much to assert that this event was a turning point in the history of the theocracy, and marked David as the true king of Israel, ready to take up the Philistine challenge of God and of His people, to kindle in Israel a new spirit, and, in the might of the living God, to bring the contest to victory."—Edersheim.

16. How complete was the victory of Israel on that day? Verses 52-54.

MEDITATION TOPICS

Do we, as did David, place our trust in the protection and guidance of God instead of in human equipment?

David did not become irritated when others treated him as an inferior. Do we?

Zeal for the honor of God's cause on earth gave David his great courage.

LESSON 3

DAVID BECOMES A FUGITIVE

April 21, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 1 Sam. 17:55-58; 18; 19.
ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES: Psalms 7; 59.
MEMORY VERSE: "My defense is of God, which saveth the upright in heart." Ps. 7:10.
LESSON HELP: "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 649-654.
TIME: David was probably about twenty-five years old.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. Seniors and Youth: Read 1 Sam. 17:55-58; 18. Repeat the memory verse each day. Read selections from the Lesson Help each day.
   Children: Study paragraphs 1-4 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1-3 and notes 1, 2 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may memorize the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 183-188 as a study help, reading portions each day.
2. Seniors and Youth: Read 1 Samuel 19.
   Children: Study paragraphs 5-8 of the primary lesson, or Questions 4-6 and notes 3-5 of the junior lesson.
3. Seniors: Study Questions 1-8, David's promotion and Saul's envy. Young people may study the corresponding portion in youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraphs 9-11 of the primary lesson, or Questions 7-11 and note 6 of the junior lesson.
4. Seniors: Study Questions 9-16, Plots on David's life. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Name the persons in the lesson story. Tell their chief characteristics. Find the places mentioned on the map.
5. Seniors: Study Questions 17-19, David's flight and divine protection. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Tell the complete lesson story, each one taking part.
6. Seniors and Youth: Read Psalms 7 and 59. Consider "Meditation Topics" and "Topics for Discussion."
   Children: Primary children recall Abraham's journey over the same route Jacob traveled. Review also the journey of Eliezer over the same road. Juniors answer questions under "Who" in their lesson.
7. Review the lesson by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review the memory verse and memory gem.

1. **After David had slain the giant Goliath, what information did Saul seek concerning him? 1 Sam. 17:55-58.**

2. **What friendship was formed while David was in the royal household? 1 Sam. 18:1-4.**

NOTE.—Jonathan was the eldest of the four sons of Saul, and one of the noblest characters revealed in Old Testament history. His brilliant exploits recorded in 1 Samuel 13, 14 illustrate his bravery, his faith, his generous spirit, and the esteem in which he was held by the people. He perished with his father in the battle at Gilboa, and David lamented his friend in an elegy of great beauty and pathos. 2 Samuel 1.

"It was the providence of God that had connected David with Saul. David's position at court would give him a knowledge of affairs, in preparation for his future greatness. It would enable him to gain the confidence of the nation. . . . And the friendship of Jonathan for David was also of God's providence, to preserve the life of the future ruler of Israel. In all these things, God was working out His gracious purposes, both for David and for the people of Israel."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 649.

3. **At this time what position was given to David? How was he regarded by the people and by Saul's servants? Verse 5.**

4. **What event aroused Saul's envy? What complaint did he make?** Verses 6-9.

NOTE.—"One great defect in the character of Saul was his love of approbation. This trait had had a controlling influence over his actions and thoughts; everything was marked by his desire for praise and self-exaltation. His standard of right and wrong was the low standard of popular applause. No man is safe who lives that he may please men, and does not seek first the approbation of God."—Id., p. 650.

5. **After brooding for twenty-four hours, what did Saul do?** Verses 10, 11.

6. **What was the cause of Saul's fear of David? What did Saul plan because of his fear?** Verses 12, 13.

7. **How did David conduct himself through these changes? What effect did his attitude have upon Saul?** Verses 14, 15.

8. **How did Israel regard David?** Verse 16.

NOTE.—"The people were not slow to see that David was a competent person, and that the affairs intrusted to his hands were managed with wisdom and skill. The counsels of the young man were of a wise and discreet character, and proved to be safe to follow; while the judgment of Saul was at times unreliable, and his decisions were not wise."—Id., p. 651.

9. **What suggestion did Saul make to David? How did Saul plan in his heart to bring about David's death?** Verse 17.

10. **What wise answer did David give?** Verse 18.

11. **How was the insincerity of Saul shown?** Verse 19.

12. What second plot was laid? With what result? Verses 20-30.

NOTE.—" 'Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines;' but God shielded His servant. David returned, a victor, from the battle, to become the king's son-in-law. 'Michal Saul's daughter loved him,' and the monarch, enraged, saw that his plots had resulted in the elevation of him whom he sought to destroy. He was still more assured that this was the man whom the Lord had said was better than he, and who should reign on the throne of Israel in his place."—Id., p. 652.

13. What open command did Saul give? 1 Sam. 19:1.

14. What two things did Jonathan do? Verses 2-5.

15. What was the result to David of Jonathan's appeal? Verses 6-8.

16. How did Saul make a direct attack on David's life? What did Michal tell David? Verses 9-11.

17. How did David escape? Where did he go? Verses 12-18.

NOTE.—"David believed that the troops of Saul would not be ordered to invade this sacred place; but no place seemed to be sacred to the darkened mind of the desperate king."—Id., p. 653.

18. Still following his evil purpose, what did King Saul do? What was the experience of his messengers? Verses 19-24.

NOTE.—"An angel of God met him [Saul] on the way, and controlled him. The Spirit of God held him in its power, and he went forward uttering prayers to God, interspersed with predictions and sacred melodies."—Id., p. 654.

19. What did this experience prove?

NOTE.—"It proved incontestably that there was a divine power engaged on behalf of David, against which the king of Israel would vainly contend, which he could not resist, and which would easily lay alike his messengers and himself prostrate and helpless at his feet. If, after this, Saul continued in his murderous designs against David, the contest would manifestly be not between two men, but between the king of Israel and the Lord of hosts."—"Bible History," Edersheim, Vol. 4, pp. 106, 107.

MEDITATION TOPICS

It is dangerous to allow love of praise to govern our lives and actions.

Harm comes from harboring evil thoughts.

David fled to the home of the man of God in the hour of trouble. Where do we go?

In the home of faith, as was Samuel's, precious lessons of life are learned.

"The Scriptures are not to be adapted to meet the prejudice and jealousy of men. They can be understood only by those who are humbly seeking for a knowledge of the truth that they may obey it." —"Christ's Object Lessons," p. 112.

LESSON 4

DAVID A FUGITIVE (Continued)

April 28, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 20 to 22.
ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES: Psalms 57; 133; 34.
MEMORY VERSE: "I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me." Ps. 57:2.
LESSON HELP: "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 654-659.
TIME: David was probably about twenty-five years old.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 1 Samuel 20 and 21. Repeat the memory verse each day. Read selections from the Lesson Help each day.
   Children: Study paragraphs 1-3 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1-4 and notes 1, 2 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may memorize the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 188-198 as a study help, reading portions each day.
2. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 1 Samuel 22.
   Children: Study paragraphs 4-6 of the primary lesson, or Questions 5-8, and notes 3, 4 of the junior lesson.
3. **Seniors:** Study Questions 1-6, Jonathan helps David. Young people may study the corresponding portion in the youth's lesson in "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraphs 7-9 of the primary lesson, or Questions 9-12 and note 5 of the junior lesson.
4. **Seniors:** Study Questions 7-10, David flees to the high priest. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 10, 11 of the primary lesson, or Questions 13-16 and notes 6, 7 of the junior lesson.
5. **Seniors:** Study Questions 11-16, Flight to the mountains. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 12, 13 of the primary lesson, or Questions 17-19 and notes 8, 9 of the junior lesson.
6. **Seniors and Youth:** Read Psalms 57; 133; 34.
   Children: Tell the story of the lesson from memory. Juniors join in telling the story and study topics under "Interesting Points."
7. Review the lesson by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review the memory verses and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. Leaving Saul at Naioth, to whom did David go? What was his plea? 1 Sam. 20:1.

2. How did Jonathan express his belief in his father's change of heart? What was David's answer? Verses 2, 3.

NOTE.—"After the remarkable exhibition of the power of God, Jonathan could not believe that his father would still harm David, since this would be manifest rebellion against God. But David was not convinced. With intense earnestness he declared to Jonathan, 'As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, there is but a step between me and death.' "—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 654.

3. What plan did David propose in order to find out what Saul's intentions were toward him? Verses 5-7.

4. What covenant was made between David and Jonathan? How was Jonathan to let David know what Saul did? Verses 16-23.

5. What happened at the feast in the king's house? Verses 24-34.

NOTE.—When Saul heard the explanation Jonathan made concerning the absence of David, "his anger was ungovernable. He declared that as long as David lived, Jonathan could not come to the throne of Israel, and he demanded that David should be sent for immediately, that he might be put to death. Jonathan again made intercession for his friend, pleading, 'Wherefore shall he be slain? What hath he done?' This appeal to the king only made him more satanic in his fury, and the spear which he had intended for David, he now hurled at his own son."—Id., p. 655.

6. How successfully did Jonathan carry out the plan made with David? How is the parting of David and Jonathan described? Verses 35-42.

NOTE.—"Though Jonathan had never spoken of it, he was fully aware of David's future destiny; more than that, he had sad presentiment of the fate of his own house. And yet, in full view of it all, he believingly submitted to the will of God, and still lovingly clave to his friend! . . . There is not a tinge of misunderstanding of David, not a shadow of suspicion, not a trace of jealousy, not a word of murmur or complaint."—"Bible History," Edersheim, Vol. 4, pp. 108, 109.

7. Where did David flee? In reply to the priest's question, what did David say? 1 Sam. 21:1, 2.

NOTE.—"The young man [David] was in constant fear of discovery, and in his extremity he resorted to deception. David told the priest that he had been sent by the king on a secret errand, one which required the utmost expedition. Here he manifested a want of faith in God, and his sin resulted in causing the death of the high priest. Had the facts been plainly stated, Ahimelech would have known what course to pursue to preserve his life. God requires that truthfulness shall mark His people, even in the greatest peril."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 656.

8. What did David procure from the priest? Where did he next go? Verses 6-10.

9. Why did David fear the king of Gath? What deception did David practice in order to escape? Verses 11-15.

NOTE.—"David had displayed noble traits of character, and his moral worth had won him favor with the people; but as trial came upon him, his faith was shaken, and human weakness appeared. He saw in every man a spy and a betrayer. In a great emergency, David had looked up to God with the steady eye of faith, and had vanquished the Philistine giant. He believed in God, he went in His name. But as he had been hunted and persecuted, perplexity and distress had nearly hidden his heavenly Father from his sight.

"Yet this experience was serving to teach David wisdom; for it led him to realize his weakness, and the necessity of constant dependence upon God."—Id., pp. 656, 657.

10. What should David have done?

NOTE.—"David ought not to have distrusted God for one moment. He had cause for trusting in Him: he was the Lord's anointed, and

in the midst of danger he had been protected by the angels of God; he had been armed with courage to do wonderful things; and if he had but removed his mind from the distressing situation in which he was placed, and had thought of God's power and majesty, he would have been at peace even in the midst of the shadows of death."—Id., p. 657.

11. Where did David next flee? Who joined him there? 1 Sam. 22:1, 2.

12. How did David express his trust in God? Psalm 57.

13. Leaving his parents in Moab, where did he next flee? 1 Sam. 22:5.

14. Realizing that some knew of David's hiding place, what did Saul say? Verses 6-8.

15. Who turned informer? What did he tell? Verses 9, 10.

16. Enraged, what did Saul command? What answer did Ahimelech make? What cruel edict of the king was carried out? Verses 11-19.

NOTE.—"When God had said that the iniquity of the Amalekites was full, and had commanded him [Saul] to destroy them utterly, he thought himself too compassionate to execute the divine sentence, and he spared that which was devoted to destruction; but, now, without a command from God, under the guidance of Satan, he could slay the priests of the Lord, and bring ruin upon the inhabitants of Nob. Such is the perversity of the human heart that has refused the guidance of God."—Id., p. 659.

17. Who felt that he was to blame for the death of Ahimelech? Verse 22.

MEDITATION TOPICS

The character of Jonathan, its nobility and unselfishness.
The evil results of deception.
Brooding on misfortunes means lack of faith.

LESSON 5

THE MAGNANIMITY OF DAVID

May 5, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 23 to 26.
ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES: Psalms 31; 120; 21.
MEMORY VERSE: "Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord." Ps. 31:24.
LESSON HELP: "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 660-672.
TIME: David was nearly thirty years old.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 1 Samuel 23 and 24. Repeat the memory verse each day. Read selections from the Lesson Help each day.
   Children: Study paragraphs 1-3 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1-3 and notes 1, 2 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may memorize the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 198-208 as a study help, reading portions each day.
2. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 1 Samuel 25 and 26.
   Children: Study paragraphs 4, 5 of the primary lesson, or Questions 4-6 and note 3 of the junior lesson.
3. **Seniors:** Study Questions 1-12, Opportunity to kill Saul. Young people may study the corresponding portion in youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraphs 6, 7 of the primary lesson, or Questions 7-10 of the junior lesson.
4. **Seniors:** Study Questions 13-17, Nabal and Abigail. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraph 8 of the primary lesson, or Questions 11-18 and notes 4-8 of the junior lesson.
5. **Seniors:** Study Questions 18-20. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Name the persons mentioned in the lesson, telling what each said or did.
6. **Seniors and Youth:** Read Psalms 31; 120; 21. Consider "Meditation Topics," and "Topics for Discussion."
   Children: Trace the route of Jacob from Haran to Canaan, telling the prominent events occurring at each place.
7. Review the lesson by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review the memory verse and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. What was one of the means that David had for communication with God? How did he use it? 1 Sam. 22:20, 21; 23:1-6.

NOTE.—"The crowning feature in all the gorgeous dress of the high priest was the breastplate worn over his heart as he officiated in the holy of holies before the Lord. [For description see Exodus 28.] . . .

"Set in the breastplate, one on either side, were two brilliant stones, called the Urim and Thummim. By means of these stones the mind of the Lord could be ascertained by the high priest. When questions were asked, if light encircled the precious stone at the right, the answer was in the affirmative; but if a shadow rested on the stone at the left, the answer was negative.

"The breastplate being attached to the ephod, David, in calling for the priest to bring the ephod when he was undecided as to what course to pursue, was really asking for the breastplate, by which he might know the mind of the Lord."—"The Cross and Its Shadow," Haskell, pp. 87, 88.

2. When Saul heard that David was at Keilah, what plan did he lay? What did David ask of the Lord? What was the answer? Verses 7-12.

3. What was the cause of Saul's failures to capture David? Verse 14.

4. Who came to David in the wood of Ziph? What did Jonathan say? Verses 16-18.

NOTE.—"At this time, when there were so few bright spots in the path of David, he was rejoiced to receive an unexpected visit from Jonathan, who had learned the place of his refuge. Precious were the moments which these two friends passed in each other's society. They

related their varied experiences, and Jonathan strengthened the heart of David. . . . As they talked of the wonderful dealings of God with David, the hunted fugitive was greatly encouraged."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 660.

5. What report did the Ziphites make to Saul? What was Saul's response? Verses 19-23.

6. How close was the pursuit? What message diverted Saul from his purpose? Verses 24-28.

7. To what place did David then flee? Verse 29.

8. How did Saul unknowingly place himself in David's power? What did David's men suggest? What did David do? 1 Sam. 24:1-4.

9. What were David's feelings after cutting off Saul's skirt? Verses 5-7.

10. How did David address Saul as he cried out after him? What did he tell Saul? Verses 8-15.

11. How did David's words affect Saul? What request did Saul make? Verses 16-22.

12. At this time, what great leader in Israel died? 1 Sam. 25:1.

NOTE.—"The death of Samuel was regarded as an irreparable loss by the nation of Israel. A great and good prophet and an eminent judge had fallen in death; and the grief of the people was deep and heartfelt. From his youth up, Samuel had walked before Israel in the integrity of his heart; although Saul had been the acknowledged king, Samuel had wielded a more powerful influence than he, because his record was one of faithfulness, obedience, and devotion. We read that he judged Israel all the days of his life. . . .

"It was when the nation was racked with internal strife, when the calm, God-fearing counsel of Samuel seemed to be most needed, that God gave His aged servant rest. Bitter were the reflections of the people as they looked upon his quiet resting place, and remembered their folly in rejecting him as their ruler; for he had had so close a connection with heaven that he seemed to bind all Israel to the throne of Jehovah."—Id., pp. 663, 664.

13. Under what circumstances did Nabal of Carmel come into David's life at this time? What was Nabal's answer? Verses 2-12.

14. What did David determine to do? How was the situation reported to Abigail? Verses 13-17.

15. How did the wife of Nabal meet the crisis? Verses 18-31.

NOTE.—"Abigail revealed the strength of her devotion to her household; and she made it plain to David that the unkind course of her husband was in no wise premeditated against him as a personal affront, but was simply the outburst of an unhappy and selfish nature. . . . Abigail presented by implication the course that David ought to pursue. He should fight the battles of the Lord. He was not to seek revenge for personal wrongs, even though persecuted as a traitor. . . .

Better impulses came to David, and he trembled as he thought what might have been the consequences of his rash purpose."—Id., pp. 666, 667.

16. What attitude did David take regarding her counsel? Verses 32, 33.

NOTE.—"With a humble heart, he [David] received the rebuke. . . . He gave thanks and blessings because she advised him righteously. There are many who, when they are reproved, think it praiseworthy if they receive the rebuke without becoming impatient; but how few take reproof with gratitude of heart, and bless those who seek to save them from pursuing an evil course."—Id., p. 667.

17. After the death of Nabal, what did David do? What wives did David now have? Verses 39-43. See "Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 668.

18. In what manner did opportunity to harm Saul come again to David? What did David do at this time? Why was he unwilling to harm Saul? 1 Sam. 26:1-12.

19. What conversation did Saul and David again have? Verses 13-22.

20. What course had others urged David to follow? In whom did David place his trust? Verses 19, 24.

MEDITATION TOPICS

David's lack of revengeful feelings and his courtesy toward Saul.

The character of Abigail as an example of true womanhood.

The danger of losing contact with God so completely that repentance for wrong, as with Saul, is merely temporary.

LESSON 6

DAVID AT ZIKLAG; THE DEATH OF SAUL

May 12, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 27; 29 to 31; 2 Samuel 1.

MEMORY VERSE: "I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women." 2 Sam. 1:26.

LESSON HELP: "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 672-682, 690-696.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 1 Samuel 27 and 29. Repeat the memory verse each day. Read selections from the Lesson Help each day.
   Children: Study paragraphs 1-3 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1, 2 and notes 1, 2 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may memorize the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 209-214, as a study help, reading portions each day.
2. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 1 Samuel 30 and 31.
   Children: Study paragraphs 4, 5 of the primary lesson, or Questions 3-5 and note 3 of the junior lesson.
3. **Seniors:** Study Questions 1-5, David with the heathen. Young people may study the corresponding portion in youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraphs 6-8 of the primary lesson, or Questions 6-9 and notes 4, 5 of the junior lesson.

4. **Seniors:** Study Questions 6-11, Experiences at Ziklag. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 9, 10 of the primary lesson, or Questions 10-13 and notes 6, 7 of the junior lesson.
5. **Seniors:** Study Questions 12, 13, Battle of Gilboa. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 11-13 of the primary lesson, or Questions 14, 15 of the junior lesson.
6. **Seniors:** Read 2 Samuel 1. Study Questions 14-17, David hears the result of the battle at Gilboa. Young people may study as suggested above. Consider "Meditation Topics" and "Topics for Discussion."
   Children: Tell the story of the lesson from memory. Juniors join in telling the story, and study topics under "Sidelights."
7. Review the lesson by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review the memory verses and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. What discouraging thoughts troubled David? What plan did they cause him to adopt? Where did he seek refuge? 1 Sam. 27:1, 2.

NOTE.—"The Lord did not send David for protection to the Philistines, the most bitter foes of Israel. This very nation would be among his worst enemies to the last; and yet he had fled to them for help in his time of need. Having lost all confidence in Saul and in those who served him, he threw himself upon the mercies of the enemies of his people. David was a brave general, and had proved himself a wise and successful warrior; but he was working directly against his own interests when he went to the Philistines. God had appointed him to set up His standard in the land of Judah, and it was want of faith that led him to forsake his post of duty without a command from the Lord."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 672.

2. What was the result of such a course?

NOTE.—"God was dishonored by David's unbelief. The Philistines had feared David more than they had feared Saul and his armies; and by placing himself under the protection of the Philistines, David discovered to them the weakness of his own people. Thus he encouraged these relentless foes to oppress Israel. . . . Furthermore, the impression was received by his brethren that he had gone to the heathen to serve their gods. By this act he gave occasion for misconstruing his motives, and many were led to hold prejudice against him. The very thing that Satan desired to have him do, he was led to do; for, in seeking refuge among the Philistines, David caused great exultation to the enemies of God and His people. David did not renounce his worship of God nor cease his devotion to His cause; but he sacrificed his trust in Him to his personal safety, and thus tarnished the upright and faithful character that God requires His servants to possess."—Id., pp. 672, 673.

3. Who were with David when he went to Gath? What did Saul cease to do? What request did David make of Achish? What place was given over to David and his company? Verses 3-6.

NOTE.—"In a town wholly separated for their use, they might worship God with more freedom than they could if they remained in Gath, where the heathen rites could not but prove a source of evil and annoyance."—Id., p. 673.

4. How long did David and his men dwell in the country of the Philistines? How did they spend their time while in Ziklag? Verses 7-12.

NOTE.—"David knew that it was the will of God that those heathen tribes should be destroyed, and he knew that he was appointed to do this work; but he was not walking in the counsel of God when he practiced deception."—Ibid.

5. When the Philistines and the Israelites came together for battle, who objected to David's presence, thus saving him from fighting against his own people? 1 Sam. 29:1-11.

NOTE.—"The Lord, in His great mercy, did not punish this error of His servant by leaving him to himself in his distress and perplexity; for though David, losing his grasp on divine power, had faltered, and turned aside from the path of strict integrity, it was still the purpose of his heart to be true to God. While Satan and his host were busy, helping the adversaries of God and of Israel to plan against a king who had forsaken God, the angels of the Lord were working to deliver David from the peril into which he had fallen. Heavenly messengers moved upon the Philistine princes to protest against the presence of David and his force with the army in the approaching conflict."—Id., p. 690.

6. What happened at Ziklag in the absence of David and his band? 1 Sam. 30:1-5.

7. What rash act was meditated by David's followers? Instead of yielding to discouragement as at other times, what did David do? Verse 6.

8. After inquiring of the Lord, what action did David and his men take? Verses 7-10.

9. What aid did an Egyptian give them? How complete was David's victory over his enemy? Verses 11-20.

10. What event shows the spirit of justice in the heart of David? Verses 21-25.

11. Whom else did David unselfishly remember? Verses 26-31.

12. What is said of the terrible battle between Israel and the Philistines? How did Saul, the king, meet his death? 1 Sam. 31:1-6.

13. What disposition did the Philistines make of the bodies of Saul and his sons? How were they recovered? What was done to show honor to the dead king and his sons? Verses 7-13.

14. In what manner was the report of the battle brought to David? What experience did the messenger relate? How did David and his men show their grief? 2 Sam. 1:1-12.

15. What was done to the messenger? Why was he so treated? Verses 13-16.

16. How did David feel at the death of Saul and Jonathan? Verse 17.

NOTE.—"David's grief at the death of Saul was sincere and deep, evincing the generosity of a noble nature. He did not exult in the fall of his enemy. The obstacle that had barred his access to the throne of Israel was removed, but at this he did not rejoice. Death had obliterated the remembrance of Saul's distrust and cruelty, and now nothing in his history was thought of but that which was noble and kingly. The name of Saul was linked with that of Jonathan, whose friendship had been so true and so unselfish."—Id., pp. 695, 696.

17. How did David express his grief at the death of Saul and Jonathan? Verses 18-27.

MEDITATION TOPICS

Learn to look to God and not at circumstances.
David's sincere grief at the death of an enemy.

LESSON 7

DAVID CALLED TO THE THRONE

May 19, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 2 Samuel 2 to 5:1-5.
ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES: Psalms 26; 18; 2.
MEMORY VERSE: "Thou hast also given me the shield of Thy salvation: and Thy right hand hath holden me up, and Thy gentleness hath made me great." Ps. 18:35.
LESSON HELP: "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 697-702.
TIME: "David was thirty years old when he began to reign." 2 Sam. 5:4.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 2 Samuel 2 and 3. Repeat the memory verse each day. Read selections from the Lesson Help each day.
   Children: Study paragraphs 1, 2 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1-4 and notes 1, 2 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may memorize the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 214-219 as a study help, reading portions each day.
2. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 2 Samuel 4; and 5:1-5.
   Children: Study paragraph 3 of the primary lesson, or Questions 5-7 of the junior lesson.
3. **Seniors:** Study Questions 1-5, David crowned king of Judah at Hebron. Young people may study the corresponding portion in youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraphs 4-7 of the primary lesson, or Questions 8-10 and note 3 of the junior lesson.
4. **Seniors:** Study Questions 6-11, Death of Abner. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 8-10, of the primary lesson, or Questions 11, 12 of the junior lesson.
5. **Seniors:** Study Questions 12-15, David not responsible for Abner's death nor for the murder of Ishbosheth. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 11, 12 of the primary lesson, or Questions 13, 14 and note 4, of the junior lesson.
6. **Seniors:** Study Questions 16-18, A united kingdom. Consider "Meditation Topics" and "Topics for Discussion."
   Children: Name the persons mentioned in the lesson, telling what each said and did. Juniors may also discuss subjects under "Topics for Thought."
7. Review the lesson by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review the memory verses and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. Where did the Lord direct David to go? Who went with him to Hebron? Over how many tribes was David anointed king? 2 Sam. 2:1-4.

2. What message did David send to the men of Jabesh-gilead? Verses 5-7.

3. What rival king was set up? By whom? Over what tribes did he rule? How long did he reign? Verses 8-10.

NOTE.—"Ishbosheth was but a weak and incompetent representative of the house of Saul, while David was preëminently qualified to bear the responsibilities of the kingdom. Abner, the chief agent in raising Ishbosheth to kingly power, had been commander in chief of Saul's army, and was the most distinguished man in Israel. Abner knew that David had been appointed by the Lord to the throne of Israel, but having so long hunted and pursued him, he was not now willing that the son of Jesse should succeed to the kingdom over which Saul had reigned."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 698.

"Mahanaim, on the farther side of Jordan, was chosen as the royal residence, since it offered the greatest security against attack, either from David or from the Philistines. Here the coronation of Ishbosheth took place. His reign was first accepted by the tribes east of Jordan, and was finally extended over all Israel except Judah."—Id., p. 699.

4. In the battle between the two forces, who was defeated? Verse 17.

5. What was the result of the long war between the houses of Saul and David? 2 Sam. 3:1.

NOTE.—"For two years the son of Saul enjoyed his honors in his secluded capital. But Abner, intent upon extending his power over all Israel, prepared for aggressive warfare."—Ibid.

6. When Abner became incensed against Ishbosheth, what did he do? Verse 12.

NOTE.—"At last, treachery overthrew the throne that malice and ambition had established. Abner, becoming incensed against the weak and incompetent Ishbosheth, deserted to David, with the offer to bring over to him all the tribes of Israel. His proposals were accepted by the king, and he was dismissed with honor, to accomplish his purpose." —Ibid.

7. What did Abner say to the elders of Israel? Verses 17, 18.

8. What further efforts did Abner make to place all Israel under David's rule? Verses 19-21.

9. What was told to Joab, commander in chief of David's army, when he returned to Hebron? Verses 22, 23.

10. How did Joab feel regarding Abner? Verses 24, 25.

11. What treachery did Joab practice? Whose death did he thus avenge? Verses 26, 27.

12. How did David feel regarding Joab's action? How did he show honor to Abner? Verses 28-35.

13. What did the people understand? What did the king say to his servants? Verses 36-39.

NOTE.—"David's magnanimous recognition of one who had been his bitter enemy, won the confidence and admiration of all Israel. . . . In the private circle of his trusted counselors and attendants, the king spoke of the crime, and recognizing his own inability to punish the murderers as he desired, he left them to the justice of God."—Id., p. 700.

14. How did the news of Abner's death affect Ishbosheth the king of Israel and his people? What were the circumstances connected with the death of Ishbosheth? 2 Sam. 4:1-8.

NOTE.—"Through circumstances over which he had no control,—allowed by Him who gives full liberty to each man, though He overrules even the darkest deeds of the wicked for the evolving of good—David was left undisputed claimant to the throne of Israel. Faith, patience, integrity were vindicated; the divine promises to David had come true in the course of natural events—and all this was better far than even if Saul had voluntarily resigned his place, or Abner succeeded in his plans."—"Bible History," Edersheim, Vol. 4, p. 162.

15. What reward did the murderers of Ishbosheth receive? Verses 9-12.

NOTE.—"David, whose throne God Himself had established, and whom God had delivered from his adversaries, did not desire the aid of treachery to establish his power."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 701.

16. What union was now effected? 2 Sam. 5:1.

17. What did the elders of Israel acknowledge? What did they then do? Verses 2, 3.

NOTE.—" 'So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and King David made a league with them in Hebron before the Lord.' Thus through the providence of God the way had been opened for him to come to the throne. He had no personal ambition to gratify, for he had not sought the honor to which he had been brought. . . . The change in the sentiments of the people was marked and decisive. The revolution was quiet and dignified, befitting the great work they were doing."—Ibid.

18. How old was David when he began to reign? How long did he reign in Hebron? In Jerusalem? Verses 4, 5.

MEDITATION TOPICS

Patience to await God's fulfillment of His promises.
The surety of the promises of God.

Were you one of the 28,500 members of the Sabbath school who, during a recent quarter, studied their lesson daily?

LESSON 8

THE REIGN OF DAVID

May 26, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 2 Sam. 5:6-25; 6; 7; 9; 10.
ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES: Psalms 24; 20; 89.
MEMORY VERSE: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom He hath chosen for His own inheritance." Ps. 33:12.
LESSON HELP: "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 703-716.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 2 Sam. 5:6-25; 6. Repeat the memory verse each day. Read selections from the Lesson Help each day.
   Children: Study paragraphs 1-3 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1-4 and notes 1-3 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may also memorize the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 219-223, as a study help, reading portions each day.
2. **Seniors:** Study Questions 1-9, Crowning of David, and removal of the ark. Young people may study the corresponding portion of youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraphs 4, 5, of the primary lesson, or Questions 5-7 of the junior lesson.
3. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 2 Samuel 7. Study Questions 10-14, God refuses to let David build. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 6-8 of the primary lesson, or Questions 8-11 of the junior lesson.
4. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 2 Samuel 9; 10. Study Questions 15-17, Final wars and the extent of the kingdom. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 9-12 of the primary lesson, or Questions 12-14, and notes 4-6 of the junior lesson.
5. **Seniors and Youth:** Read Psalms 24; 20; 89. Consider "Meditation Topics" and "Topics for Discussion."
   Children: Tell the story of the lesson, juniors joining, and also discuss topics under heading "Interesting Points."
6. Review the first half of the lesson by asking questions from different lesson papers. Review the memory verses and memory gem.
7. Review the last half of the lesson by asking questions from different lesson papers. Review the memory verses and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. After David had become king of united Israel, what was one of his first acts? 2 Sam. 5:6-9.

NOTE.—"As soon as David was established on the throne of Israel, he began to seek a more appropriate location for the capital of his realm. Twenty miles from Hebron, a place was selected as the future metropolis of the kingdom. Before Joshua had led the armies of Israel over Jordan, it had been called Salem. Near this place, Abraham had proved his loyalty to God. Eight hundred years before the coronation of David, it had been the home of Melchizedek, the priest of the most high God. . . .

"In order to secure this location, the Hebrews must dispossess a remnant of the Canaanites, who held a fortified position on the mountains of Zion and Moriah. This stronghold was called Jebus, and its inhabitants were known as Jebusites. For centuries, Jebus had been looked upon as impregnable; but it was besieged and taken by the Hebrews under the command of Joab, who, as the reward of his valor, was made commander in chief of the armies of Israel. Jebus now

became the national capital, and its heathen name was changed to Jerusalem."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 703.

2. What is said concerning David's experience? What did the king of Tyre do? What did David perceive concerning his rule of Israel? Verses 10-12.

3. Hoping to overcome the young kingdom, who declared war? What counsel did David seek? What was the result of the two combats? Verses 17-25; 1 Chron. 14:16, 17.

4. What cherished purpose did David now seek to gratify? 2 Sam. 6:1, 2.

5. How did they move the ark and by whom was it accompanied? Verses 3-5.

6. What tragedy marked the journey? Verses 6, 7.

NOTE.—"The fate of Uzzah was a divine judgment upon the violation of a most explicit command. Through Moses the Lord had given special instruction concerning the transportation of the ark. None but the priests, the descendants of Aaron, were to touch it, or even to look upon it uncovered. . . . Thus in the bringing of the ark from Kirjath-jearim, there had been a direct and inexcusable disregard of the Lord's directions. . . .

"God can accept no partial obedience, no lax way of treating His commandments. By the judgment upon Uzzah, He designed to impress upon all Israel the importance of giving strict heed to His requirements. Thus the death of that one man, by leading the people to repentance, might prevent the necessity of inflicting judgments upon thousands."—Id., pp. 705, 706.

7. As a result of his feelings in this matter, what did David do? Verses 8-10.

NOTE.—"Upon David the divine rebuke accomplished its work. He was led to realize, as he had never realized before, the sacredness of the law of God, and the necessity of strict obedience."—Id., p. 706.

8. What was told to David concerning the ark? After three months, what did he again attempt? Verse 12.

9. How is the procession described? Verses 13-15, 17-19.

NOTE.—"The solemn ceremonies attending the removal of the ark had made a lasting impression upon the people of Israel, arousing a deeper interest in the sanctuary service, and kindling anew their zeal for Jehovah. David endeavored, by every means in his power, to deepen these impressions."—Id., p. 711.

10. What was another ambition of David's heart? 2 Sam. 7:1, 2.

NOTE.—"The tabernacle built by Moses, with all that appertained to the sanctuary service, except the ark, was still at Gibeah. It was David's purpose to make Jerusalem the religious center of the nation. He had erected a palace for himself, and he felt that it was not fitting for the ark of God to rest within a tent."—Ibid.

11. How did the prophet Nathan express himself concerning David's plan? Verse 3.

NOTE.—"But Nathan had spoken . . . from his own, though pious, impulse, and not by direction of the Lord. Ofttimes our thoughts, although springing from motives of real religion, are not God's thoughts; and the lesson here conveyed is most important, of not taking our own impressions, however earnestly and piously derived, as necessarily in accordance with the will of God, but testing them by His revealed word."—"Bible History," Edersheim, Vol. 4, p. 180.

12. What is the substance of the message God sent to David by Nathan? Verses 4-17.

13. On receiving the message, where did David go? In what spirit did he receive the message that frustrated his plans? Verses 18-29.

NOTE.—"He [David] thinks no more of the frustration of his cherished design; his regret is swallowed up by his delight at the fair prospect before him; his heart is so full that he can not rest in his palace, and he goes forth to the sanctuary where the ark was placed, that he may pour forth his soul to the Lord who had dealt so graciously with him."—"David: His Life and Times," Deane, p. 119.

14. Instead of grateful submission, what spirit do many manifest?

NOTE.—"Instead of gratefully submitting to the divine direction, many fall back as if slighted and rejected, feeling that if they can not do the one thing which they desire to do, they will do nothing. Many cling, with desperate energy, to responsibilities which they are incapable of bearing, and vainly endeavor to accomplish a work for which they are insufficient, while that which they might do, lies neglected."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 712, 713.

15. In his wars with surrounding nations, what insured David's success? 2 Sam. 8:6, last sentence.

16. What kindness did David now show to the house of Saul? 2 Samuel 9.

17. What was now the extent of David's kingdom? Gen. 15:18.

NOTE.—"The kingdom of Israel had now reached in extent the fulfillment of the promise given to Abraham, and afterward repeated to Moses: 'Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates.' Israel had become a mighty nation, respected and feared by surrounding peoples. In his own realm, David's power had become very great. He commanded, as few sovereigns in any age have been able to command, the affections and allegiance of his people. He had honored God, and God was now honoring him."—Id., p. 716.

MEDITATION TOPICS

The importance of accurate knowledge for perfect obedience.

God never denies except that He may supply something better.

David's submission to the will of God. A similar attitude needed on our part.

LESSON 9

DAVID'S SIN AND REPENTANCE

June 2, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 2 Samuel 11; 12:1-25.
ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES: Psalms 32; 51.
MEMORY VERSE: "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise." Ps. 51:17.
LESSON HELP: "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 717-726.
TIME: David was about fifty years old.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. **Seniors and Youth:** Read the Lesson Scripture. Repeat the memory verse each day. Read selected portions of the Lesson Help each day.
   Children: Study paragraphs 1, 2 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1-4 and notes 1-4 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may also learn the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 224-226 as a study help, reading portions each day.
2. **Seniors:** Study Questions 1-3, David's sin. Young people may study the corresponding portion in the youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraphs 3-5 of the primary lesson, or Questions 5-7 and notes 5, 6 of the junior lesson.
3. **Seniors:** Study Questions 4-7, Efforts to conceal crime. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 6-9 of the primary lesson, or Questions 8-10 and notes 7-9 of the junior lesson.
4. **Seniors:** Study Questions 8-11, God's reproof. Young people may study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 10-12 of the primary lesson, or Questions 11-15 of the junior lesson.
5. **Seniors:** Study Questions 12-15, David's repentance. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Tell the complete story of the lesson. Juniors may join in this, and also discuss topics under the heading "What Does This Lesson Teach?"
6. **Seniors and Youth:** Read Psalms 32; 51. Consider "Meditation Topics" and "Topics for Discussion."
   Children: Review the lesson by naming the characters mentioned, telling what each said and did.
7. Review the lessons by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review the memory verses and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. What law had David violated? Deut. 17:17; 2 Sam. 3:2-5; 5:13.

NOTE.—"Flattery, and the subtle allurements of power and luxury, were not without effect upon him. Intercourse with surrounding nations also exerted an influence for evil. According to the customs prevailing among Eastern rulers, crimes not to be tolerated in subjects were uncondemned in the king; the monarch was not under obligation to exercise the same self-restraint as the subject. All this tended to lessen David's sense of the exceeding sinfulness of sin."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 717.

2. What grievous sin did David commit? 2 Sam. 11:2-5; Ex. 20:14.

3. What was the punishment for such a crime? Lev. 20:10.

NOTE.—"None could foresee what would be the result should the crime become known. The law of God pronounced the adulterer guilty of death, and the proud-spirited soldier, so shamefully wronged, might

avenge himself by taking the life of the king, or by exciting the nation to revolt."—Id., p. 718.

4. How did David seek to conceal his crime? 2 Sam. 11:6-13.

5. Failing to get Uriah to visit his home, what further crime did he plan? Verses 14, 15.

NOTE.—"Every effort which David made to conceal his guilt proved unavailing. He had betrayed himself into the power of Satan; danger surrounded him, dishonor more bitter than death was before him. There appeared but one way of escape, and in his desperation he was hurried on to add murder to adultery. He who had compassed the destruction of Saul, was seeking to lead David also to ruin. Though the temptations were different, they were alike in leading to transgression of God's law."—Id., pp. 718, 719.

6. How did Joab carry out the instruction of David? What message passed between David and Joab? Verses 16-25.

7. After the days of mourning for Uriah had passed, what did David do? Verse 27, first part.

NOTE.—"He whose tender conscience and high sense of honor would not permit him, even when in peril of his life, to put forth his hand against the Lord's anointed, had so fallen that he could wrong and murder one of his most faithful and most valiant soldiers, and hope to enjoy undisturbed the reward of his sin."—Id., p. 720.

8. How did God look upon David's sin? Verse 27, last part.

NOTE.—"As time passed on, David's sin toward Bathsheba became known, and suspicion was excited that he had planned the death of Uriah. The Lord was dishonored. He had favored and exalted David, and David's sin misrepresented the character of God, and cast reproach upon His name. It tended to lower the standard of godliness in Israel, to lessen in many minds the abhorrence of sin; while those who did not love and fear God were by it emboldened in transgression."—Ibid.

9. Sent by God, what message did Nathan the prophet deliver? 2 Sam. 12:1-4.

NOTE.—"To few sovereigns could such a reproof be given but at the price of certain death to the reprover. Nathan delivered the divine sentence unflinchingly, yet with such heaven-born wisdom as to engage the sympathies of the king, to arouse his conscience, and to call from his lips the sentence of death upon himself. Appealing to David as the divinely appointed guardian of his people's rights, the prophet repeated a story of wrong and oppression that demanded redress."—Id., pp. 720, 721.

10. What sentence did David unwittingly pronounce? Verses 5, 6; Ex. 22:1.

11. What dramatic scene followed? 2 Sam. 12:7-12.

12. Instead of excusing himself, what did David acknowledge? Of what did Nathan assure him? Verses 13, 14.

13. What were some of the effects of David's sin? Verses 10-14.

NOTE.—"There was a great change in David himself. He was broken in spirit by the consciousness of his sin and its far-reaching results. He felt humbled in the eyes of his subjects. His influence was weakened. Hitherto his prosperity had been attributed to his conscientious obedience to the commandments of the Lord. But now his subjects, having a knowledge of his sin, would be led to sin more freely. His authority in his own household, his claim to respect and obedience from his sons, was weakened. A sense of his guilt kept him silent when he should have condemned sin; it made his arm feeble to execute justice in his house. His evil example exerted its influence upon his sons, and God would not interpose to prevent the result. He would permit things to take their natural course, and thus David was severely chastised."—Id., p. 723.

14. What are some of the characteristics of David's repentance? Ps. 51:3, 4, 7, 10, 14, 17.

15. What is the lesson in this incident to us?

NOTE.—"Immediately on his [David's] acknowledgment of his sin, without the interposition of a moment's interval between his confession and the assurance, Nathan had said, 'The Lord hath put away thy sin.' . . .

"Penitent soul! dare to believe in the instantaneous forgiveness of sins. Thou hast only to utter the confession to find it interrupted with the outbreak of the Father's love. As soon as the words of penitence leave thy lips they are met by the hurrying assurances of a love which, while it hates sin, has never ceased to yearn over the prodigal."—"David," Meyer, pp. 198, 199.

MEDITATION TOPICS

One sin unrepented of leads to another.
Tactfulness in giving, and humility in receiving, reproof.
True repentance offers no excuse for sins committed.

LESSON 10

THE REBELLION OF ABSALOM

June 9, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 2 Sam. 13:23-39; 14 to 19:1-8.
ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES: Psalms 3; 41; 55; 69.
MEMORY VERSE: "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved." Ps. 55:22.
LESSON HELP: "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 727-745.
TIME: About ten years after David's sin and repentance.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. Seniors and Youth: Read 2 Sam. 13:23-35; 14-16. Repeat the memory verse each day. Read selections from the Lesson Help each day.

Children: Study paragraphs 1, 2 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1-4 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may memorize the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 227, 228 as a study help.

2. Seniors: Study Questions 1-7, Absalom plots. Young people may study corresponding portions in youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
Children: Study paragraphs 3-5 of the primary lesson, or Questions 5-7 and note 1 of the junior lesson.
3. Seniors: Study Questions 8-13, Absalom at Hebron—David flees from Jerusalem. Young people study as suggested above.
Children: Study paragraphs 6-8 of the primary lesson, or Questions 8-10 and note 2 of the junior lesson.
4. Seniors and Youth: Read 2 Samuel 17 to 19:1-8.
Children: Study paragraphs 9, 10 of the primary lesson, or Questions 11, 12 of the junior lesson.
5. Seniors: Study Questions 14-20, The battle—Absalom's death. Young people study corresponding portion in the youth's lesson.
Children: Study paragraphs 11-13 of the primary lesson, or Questions 13-15 and notes 3, 4 of the junior lesson.
6. Seniors and Youth: Read Psalms 41; 55; 69. Consider "Meditation Topics" and "Topics for Discussion."
Children: Tell the story of the lesson from memory. Juniors may join in telling the story, and study topics under "Things to Think About."
7. Review the lesson by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review the memory verses and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. How did David's son Absalom plan to kill Amnon, his eldest brother? How was the plan carried out? With what result? What tidings came to David? How was he comforted? 2 Sam. 13:23-36.

NOTE.—Amnon was the eldest son of David. Absalom's mother was Maacah. 2 Sam. 3:2, 3. "David had neglected the duty of punishing the crime of Amnon, and because of the unfaithfulness of the king and father, and the impenitence of the son, the Lord permitted events to take their natural course, and did not restrain Absalom. When parents or rulers neglect the duty of punishing iniquity, God Himself will take the case in hand. His restraining power will be in a measure removed from the agencies of evil, so that a train of circumstances will arise which will punish sin with sin."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 728.

2. Where did Absalom flee? What were the king's feelings? Verses 37-39.

NOTE.—"After he [Absalom] fled to Geshur, David, feeling that the crime of his son demanded some punishment, refused him permission to return. And this had a tendency to increase rather than to lessen the inextricable evils in which the king had come to be involved. Absalom, energetic, ambitious, and unprincipled, shut out by his exile from participation in the affairs of the kingdom, soon gave himself up to dangerous scheming."—Ibid.

3. What plan did Joab formulate to bring back Absalom? 2 Sam. 14:1-3.

4. In carrying out the plan of Joab, what request did the widow bring to David? How did the woman bring Absalom to David's mind? Verses 4-17.

5. Whose hand did David discern in the widow's story and request? Verses 18-20.

6. On Absalom's return to Jerusalem, what attitude did David take? What is said of Absalom's personal appearance? What experience resulted in the king's receiving Absalom? Verses 24-33.

NOTE.—"Absalom was permitted to return to Jerusalem, but not to appear at court, or to meet his father. David had begun to see the evil effects of his indulgence toward his children; and tenderly as he loved this beautiful and gifted son, he felt it necessary, as a lesson both to Absalom and to the people, that abhorrence for such a crime should be manifested."—Id., p. 729.

7. When Absalom was restored to favor, how did he win the people's hearts? 2 Sam. 15:1-6.

NOTE.—"The influence of David's listlessness and irresolution extended to his subordinates; negligence and delay characterized the administration of justice. Absalom artfully turned every cause of dissatisfaction to his own advantage. . . . Yet the king, blinded by affection for his son, suspected nothing."—Id., pp. 729, 730.

8. What took place when Absalom went to Hebron? Verses 7-12.

9. When news of Absalom's rebellion was brought to David, what did he decide to do? Who accompanied him? Verses 13-23.

10. Why did David command that the ark should be returned? Verses 24-29.

11. What was the manner of David's departure from Jerusalem? In what manner were loyal men to help defeat the counsel of Ahithophel? Verses 30-37.

NOTE.—"The defection of Ahithophel, the ablest and most wily of political leaders, was prompted by revenge for the family disgrace involved in the wrong to Bathsheba, who was his granddaughter. . . .

"Upon reaching the top of the mount, the king bowed in prayer, casting upon God the burden of his soul, and humbly supplicating divine mercy. His prayer seemed to be at once answered. Hushai the Archite, a wise and able counselor, who had proved himself a faithful friend to David, now came to him with his robes rent, and with earth upon his head, to cast in his fortunes with the dethroned and fugitive king. David saw, as by a divine enlightenment, that this man, faithful and true-hearted, was the one needed to serve the interests of the king in the councils at the capital. At David's request, Hushai returned to Jerusalem, to offer his services to Absalom, and defeat the crafty counsel of Ahithophel."—Id., p. 735.

12. What two contrasting events happened as David went on his way? 2 Sam. 16:1-14.

NOTE.—"In David's prosperity, Shimei had not shown by word or act that he was not a loyal subject. But in the affliction of the king, this Benjamite revealed his true character. He had honored David upon his throne, but he cursed him in his humiliation. Base and selfish, he looked upon others as of the same character as himself, and, inspired by Satan, he wreaked his hatred upon him whom God had chastened. The Spirit that leads men to triumph over, to revile or distress, one who is in affliction, is the spirit of Satan."—Id., p. 736.

13. When Absalom arrived in Jerusalem, what profession of loyalty did Hushai make? How did Hushai defeat Ahithophel's counsel? Verses 15-19; 17:1-14.

NOTE.—"He [Hushai] suggested a plan attractive to a vain and selfish nature, fond of the show of power."—Id., p. 740. Hushai's plan, by delay, gave opportunity for David's forces to prepare for the struggle.

14. How was word of their plotting sent to David? How were the lives of the messengers guarded? Verses 15-21.

15. Where did David take refuge with his followers? Understanding what was lost in the acceptance of Hushai's plan, what did Ahithophel do? Verses 22-24.

16. What preparation did David make for the battle? 2 Sam. 18:1-5.

NOTE.—"The king's solicitude, seeming to declare that Absalom was dearer to him than his kingdom, dearer even than the subjects faithful to his throne, only increased the indignation of the soldiers against the unnatural son."—Id., p. 743.

17. Where was the battle fought? How great was the loss of men? Defeated in battle, what happened to Absalom? Verses 6-17.

18. What story did the runners bring to David? Verses 19-32.

NOTE.—David was at Mahanaim, "a strongly fortified city, surrounded by a mountainous district favorable for retreat in case of war. The country was well provisioned, and the people were friendly to the cause of David. Here many adherents joined him, while wealthy tribesmen brought abundant gifts of provision, and other needed supplies."—Id., p. 742.

19. How did David express his grief at Absalom's death? Verse 33.

20. What was the effect of David's grief upon the people? How did Joab rebuke the king? What did David then do? 2 Sam. 19:1-8.

NOTE.—"Harsh and even cruel as was the reproof to the heart-stricken king, David did not resent it. Seeing that his general was right, he went down to the gate, and with words of courage and commendation greeted his brave soldiers as they marched past him."—Id., p. 745.

MEDITATION TOPICS

The evil results of indulging our children.
Reviling one in distress is of the spirit of Satan.
David mourned for Absalom, but he did not murmur against God.

THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERING

June 30, 1928

JAPAN AND KOREA

LESSON 11

THE LAST YEARS OF DAVID

June 16, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 1 Chronicles 21; 28; 29:1-22; 1 Kings 1.
ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES: Psalms 145; 71.
MEMORY VERSE: "My tongue also shall talk of Thy righteousness all the day long." Ps. 71:24.
LESSON HELP: "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 746-755.
TIME: David was about seventy years of age when he died.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 1 Chronicles 21. Repeat the memory verse each day. Read selections from the Lesson Help each day.
   Children: Study paragraphs 1-3 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1-5, and notes 1, 2 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may memorize the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 229, 230 as a study help.
2. **Seniors:** Study Questions 1-8, David chooses his punishment. Young people may study the corresponding portion in the youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraphs 4-7 of the primary lesson, or Questions 6-8 and notes 3, 4 of the junior lesson.
3. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 1 Kings 1.
   Children: Study paragraphs 8, 9 of the primary lesson, or Questions 9-12 and notes 5, 6 of the junior lesson.
4. **Seniors:** Study Questions 9-13, The conspiracy of Adonijah. Young people study corresponding portion in the youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraphs 10-12 of the primary lesson, or Questions 13-17 and note 7 of the junior lesson.
5. **Seniors and Youth:** Read 1 Chronicles 28; 29.
   Children: Study paragraph 13 of the primary lesson, or Question 18 and note 8, of the junior lesson. Consider the lesson to us in this story.
6. **Seniors:** Study Questions 14-22, The succession of Solomon. Young people study corresponding portion in the youth's lesson. Consider "Meditation Topics" and "Topics for Discussion."
   Children: Name the persons in the lesson telling what each said and did. Juniors discuss topics under "Character."
7. Review the lesson by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review the memory verses and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. By whom was David caused to number Israel? 1 Chron. 21:1.

NOTE.—"With a view to extending his conquests among foreign nations, David determined to increase his army by requiring military service from all who were of proper age. To effect this, it became necessary to take a census of the population. It was pride and ambition that prompted this action of the king. The numbering of the people would show the contrast between the weakness of the kingdom when David ascended the throne, and its strength and prosperity under his rule. This would tend still further to foster the already too great self-confidence of both king and people. The scripture says, 'Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.' The prosperity of Israel under David had been due to the blessing of God rather than to the ability of her king or the strength of her armies. But the increasing of the military resources of the kingdom would give the impression to the surrounding nations that Israel's trust was in

her armies, and not in the power of Jehovah."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 747.

2. Who objected to the plan? Verses 2-6.

3. How did God regard the numbering of Israel? What did David come to realize? Verses 7, 8.

4. What choice of punishments was given him? Verses 9-12.

5. Trusting God's mercy, which did he choose? Verse 13.

6. How many died because of this sin? Verse 14.

NOTE.—"The taking of the census had caused disaffection among the people; yet they had themselves cherished the same sins that prompted David's action. As the Lord through Absalom's sin visited judgment upon David, so through David's error He punished the sins of Israel."—Id., p. 748.

7. In what manner was the destruction of Jerusalem prevented? What humble statement did David make? Verses 15-17.

8. What instruction was given to David concerning the erection of an altar? How was this command carried out? Verses 18-30.

9. At this time, what was the condition of the king's health? 1 Kings 1:1.

NOTE.—"The hardships and exposures of his early wanderings, his many wars, the cares and afflictions of his later years, had sapped the fountain of life."—Id., p. 749.

10. What conspiracy arose? What soldier who had heretofore been loyal to David, now joined in the rebellion? Verses 5-7.

NOTE.—"Though his [David's] mind retained its clearness and strength, feebleness and age, with their desire for seclusion, prevented a quick apprehension of what was passing in the kingdom, and again rebellion sprung up in the very shadow of the throne. Again the fruit of David's parental indulgence was manifest."—Ibid.

11. Who helped to thwart the plot? How was David's attention called to the necessity of appointing his successor? To whom was the kingdom promised? Verses 8-32.

12. What commands did David give concerning proclaiming Solomon king? Who anointed Solomon king of Israel? How did the people respond? Verses 33-40.

13. How was the news of Solomon's being made king brought to the conspirators? How did Adonijah seek to save himself? With what result? Verses 41-53.

NOTE.—"The conspiracy was crushed. Its chief actors had incurred the penalty of death. Abiathar's life was spared, out of respect to his office and his former fidelity to David; but he was degraded from the office of high priest, which passed to the line of Zadok. Joab and Adonijah were spared for the time, but after the death of David they suffered the penalty of their crime. The execution of the sentence upon

the son of David completed the fourfold judgment that testified to God's abhorrence of the father's sin."—Id., pp. 749, 750.

14. Whom did David call together as one of his last acts? What did David say to the assembly concerning the building of a house for the Lord? 1 Chron. 28:1-10.

NOTE.—"Seeing that his end was near, the king summoned the princes of Israel, with representative men from all parts of the kingdom, to receive this legacy in trust. He desired to commit to them his dying charge, and secure their concurrence and support in the great work to be accomplished. Because of his physical weakness, it had not been expected that he would attend to this transfer in person; but the inspiration of God came upon him, and with more than his wonted fervor and power, he was able, for the last time, to address his people." —Id., p. 750.

15. Briefly enumerate the things David had collected for the temple. Verses 11-19; 29:1-9.

16. What did David give to Solomon near the close of this service? What tender admonition did David give to the young king? 1 Chron. 28:11, 12, 20, 21.

17. What else did David say to the congregation about Solomon? In addition to preparing things for the temple of the Lord, what gift did David make personally? 1 Chron. 29:1-5.

18. What call did he make? Verse 5, last part.

19. What response was given by the leaders in Israel? What caused the people to rejoice? Verses 6-9.

20. After offering thanks and praise to God, what was offered? What did they do the second time? Verses 10-22.

21. What did the Lord do for Solomon? How long had David reigned? What is said of his death? Verses 23-28.

MEDITATION TOPICS

The tender mercies of God even in punishment.
The steadfastness of David's faith in his latter years.

LESSON 12

CHARACTER STUDY OF DAVID

June 23, 1928

PSALM TO BE READ: Psalm 103.

MEMORY VERSE: "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy." Ps. 103:8.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. Seniors and Youth: Read Psalm 103. Repeat the memory verse each day. Children: Study paragraphs 1-3 of the primary lesson, or Questions 1, 2 and

note 1 of the junior lesson. Drill on the memory verse each day. Juniors may memorize the memory gem. Use "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 230-232 as a study help.

2. **Seniors:** Study Questions 1-3. Young people may study the corresponding portion of the youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraphs 4-6 of the primary lesson, or Questions 3-6 and notes 2, 3 of the junior lesson.
3. **Seniors:** Study Questions 4-8. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 7, 8 of the primary lesson, or Questions 7-9 and notes 4, 5 of the junior lesson.
4. **Seniors:** Study Questions 9-12. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 9-12 of the primary lesson, or Questions 10-12 and note 6 of the junior lesson.
5. **Seniors:** Study Questions 13-15. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Tell the story of the lesson from memory. Juniors may join in telling the story, and in discussing topics under heading "Questions for Diligent Students."
6. **Seniors:** Study Questions 16, 17. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Name the different persons in the lesson, telling what each said and did. Juniors may join in the exercise.
7. Review the lesson by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review the memory verses and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. What lessons come to us from David's life as a shepherd? 1 Sam. 16:11-13; 17:34-36.

NOTE.—"As humble and modest as before his anointing, the shepherd boy returned to the hills, and watched and guarded his flocks as tenderly as ever. But with new inspiration he composed his melodies, and played upon his harp. Before him spread a landscape of rich and varied beauty. . . . In the far-away distance rose the barren cliffs of the mountain wall of Moab; above all spread the tender blue of the overarching heavens. And beyond was God. He could not see Him, but His works were full of His praise. . . . In contemplation of God and His works, the faculties of David's mind and heart were developing and strengthening for the work of his after life. He was daily coming into a more intimate communion with God. His mind was constantly penetrating into new depths. . . . Who can measure the results of those years of toil and wandering among the lonely hills?" —"Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 641, 642.

2. What experiences in the life of David show his personal bravery? 1 Sam. 17:34-37, 40-51; 26:6, 7.

3. What incidents show that David cherished a Christian spirit toward his foes? 1 Sam. 24:4, 5; 26:8-12; 2 Sam. 3:6, 31-39.

NOTE.—"The burial of Abner was attended with public honors. The army, with Joab at their head, were required to take part in the services of mourning, with rent garments and clothed in sackcloth. The king manifested his grief by keeping a fast upon the day of burial; he followed the bier as chief mourner; and at the grave he pronounced an elegy which was a cutting rebuke of the murderers. . . . David's magnanimous recognition of one who had been his bitter enemy, won the confidence and admiration of all Israel."—Id., p. 700.

4. How did David exemplify true friendship? 1 Sam. 18:1; 20:41, 42; 2 Sam. 1:12, 17-27.

5. How does the psalmist express his desire to wait patiently on God? Ps. 37:7; 40:1-3.

6. What attitude did David take toward the working out of God's will? 1 Sam. 16:13; 24:9, 10; Ps. 37:34.

NOTE.—"The great honor conferred upon David did not serve to elate him. Notwithstanding the high position which he was to occupy, he quietly continued his employment, content to await the development of the Lord's plans in His own time and way."—Id., p. 641.

7. When overtaken in sin, how did David relate himself to correction and reproof? 2 Sam. 12:13, first part; Ps. 51:1-3.

8. What was his attitude toward recognized sin? Ps. 32:5.

9. How earnestly did David long for communion with God? Ps. 42:1-3.

10. In what manner does the psalmist express the joy he finds in prayer and communion with God? Ps. 63:1-4.

NOTE.—"There were times when faith faltered, and he [David] did foolish things, when his passion mastered him, when he fell into terrible sin; deeper than the passion, was the passionate desire for holiness; profounder than any sin, however heinous, was the attitude of the soul which could say, 'My soul followeth hard after God.' "—"Living Messages," Campbell Morgan, p. 163.

11. How does he recognize the value of meditation upon the word and works of God? Ps. 1:2; 77:11, 12; 139:17, 18.

12. How does the life of David encourage us to hope in God's mercy even though we have sinned? Ps. 51:5-14, 16, 17.

NOTE.—"Many have murmured at what they called God's injustice in sparing David, whose guilt was so great, after having rejected Saul for what appear to them to be far less flagrant sins. But David humbled himself and confessed his sin, while Saul despised reproof, and hardened his heart in impenitence. This passage in David's history is full of significance to the repenting sinner. It is one of the most forcible illustrations given us of the struggles and temptations of humanity, and of genuine repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Through all the ages, it has proved a source of encouragement to souls that, having fallen into sin, were struggling under the burden of their guilt. Thousands of the children of God, who have been betrayed into sin, when ready to give up to despair have remembered how David's sincere repentance and confession were accepted by God, notwithstanding he suffered for his transgression; and they also have taken courage to repent, and try again to walk in the way of God's commandments."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 726.

13. How does David exemplify the faith that conquers every enemy? 1 Sam. 17:47; Ps. 3:3, 5, 6.

14. In defeat and loss how fully did David's faith hold him steadfast? 1 Sam. 30:6.

NOTE.—"In this hour of utmost extremity, David, instead of permitting his mind to dwell upon these painful circumstances, looked earnestly to God for help. He 'encouraged himself in the Lord.' He reviewed his past eventful life. Wherein had the Lord ever forsaken him? His soul was refreshed in recalling the many evidences of God's favor."—Id., p. 692.

15. How does David express the need for tender love between brethren? Ps. 133:1-3.

16. What influence have David's songs had upon the world's history?

NOTE.—"The psalms of David pass through the whole range of experience, from the depths of conscious guilt and self-condemnation to the loftiest faith and the most exalted communing with God."—Id., p. 754.

Wherever the word of God has gone among the nations of earth, the psalms of David have had an uplifting, hopeful influence upon the hearts and lives of men. In many lands even to this day they form the background of the hymns of praise, and the foundations of an unwavering faith in the triumphs of the kingdom of God. Their lofty sentiments of loyalty to God, of submission to His will, and their touch with the trials, temptations, and victories of human souls in the battles of daily life make them an undying influence in the world.

17. In view of David's loyalty to God, and his deep repentance for sin, what estimate does God place upon his life work? 1 Kings 15:5.

NOTE.—"Glorious are the promises made to David and his house, promises that look forward to the eternal ages, and find their complete fulfillment in Christ. The Lord declared:

" 'I have sworn unto David My servant, . . . with whom My hand shall be established: Mine arm also shall strengthen him. . . . My faithfulness and My mercy shall be with him: and in My name shall his horn be exalted. I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers. He shall cry unto Me, Thou art my Father, my God, and the rock of my salvation. Also I will make him My first-born, higher than the kings of the earth. My mercy will I keep for him forevermore, and My covenant shall stand fast with him.' Ps. 89:3-28."—Id., pp. 754, 755.

"Great had been David's fall, but deep was his repentance, ardent was his love, and strong his faith. He had been forgiven much, and therefore he loved much."—Id., p. 754.

Can you not make the Thirteenth Sabbath "dollar day" with you? "Souls are perishing for the word of life" in Japan and Korea, and every dollar given will aid in bringing the light to those who are now in darkness. "Some can bring large gifts to the Lord's treasury, others can bring only mites; but every gift brought in sincerity is accepted by the Lord. . . . My brethren and sisters, waste not your money in purchasing unnecessary things. You may think these little sums do not amount to much, but many littles will make a great whole."—"Testimonies," Vol. 9, pp. 54, 55.

LESSON 13

A PSALM OF DAVID—AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GOD'S POWER AND GUIDANCE

June 30, 1928

LESSON SCRIPTURE: Psalm 19.
MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 23.

Suggestions for Daily Family Study

1. **Seniors and Youth:** Read Psalm 19, and learn the memory psalm, repeating it each day.
   Children: Study paragraphs 1, 2 of the primary lesson. Juniors may study questions on "The Marriage of Isaac" and "The Birthright Blessing." Review the memory verse and memory gem each day.
2. **Seniors:** Study Questions 1-7, God's glory in the heavens. Young people may study the corresponding portion in youth's lesson in the "Youth's Instructor."
   Children: Study paragraph 3 of the primary lesson. Juniors may study questions on "Jacob's Journey to Haran" and "Jacob Serving Laban."
3. **Seniors:** Study Questions 8-13, Desirability and rewards of obedience. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraph 3 of the primary lesson. Juniors may study questions on "Jacob's Return to Canaan."
4. **Seniors:** Study Questions 14, 15, Desire for heart cleansing. Young people may study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 5, 6 of the primary lesson. Juniors may study questions under "Joseph as a Youth" and "Joseph in Prison."
5. **Seniors:** Study Questions 16, 17, A plea for acceptance. Young people study as suggested above.
   Children: Study paragraphs 7, 8 of the primary lesson. Juniors may study questions under "Joseph Made Ruler in Egypt" and "Joseph's Brothers Go to Egypt."
6. **Seniors:** Review Questions 1-13. Young people review first half of lesson and memory psalm.
   Children: Study paragraphs 9, 10 of the primary lesson. Juniors may study questions under "Joseph's Brothers Go Again to Egypt."
7. **Seniors:** Review Questions 14-17, and repeat the memory psalm. Young people review last half of lesson.
   Children: Review the children's lesson by asking questions from the different lesson papers. Review the memory verse and memory gem.

THE LESSON

1. What do the heavens declare? How does the firmament manifest Him? Ps. 19:1.

NOTE.—"God calls upon men to see Him in the wonders of the heavens. 'Lift up your eyes on high,' He says, 'and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: He calleth them all by names by the greatness of His might.' Isa. 40:26. God would have us study the works of infinity, and from this study learn to love and reverence and obey Him. The heavens and the earth with their treasures are to teach the lessons of God's love and care and power."—"Counsels to Teachers," pp. 456, 457.

2. In what manner do day and night reveal God? Verse 2.

3. How universally is the voice of nature heard? Verse 3.

NOTE.—All nature speaks of God, of His wisdom, His love, His

glory. While speech or language is not theirs, yet their voice is heard speaking to every human being.

"The spacious firmament on high,
With all the blue, ethereal sky,
And spangled heavens, a shining frame,
Their great Original proclaim:
Th' unwearied sun, from day to day
Does his Creator's power display,
And publishes to every land
The work of an almighty hand.

"Soon as the evening shades prevail,
The moon takes up the wondrous tale;
And nightly, to the listening earth
Repeats the story of her birth;
While all the stars that round her burn,
And all the planets in their turn,
Confirm the tidings as they roll,
And spread the truth from pole to pole.

"What though in solemn silence, all
Move round the dark terrestrial ball?
What though no real voice nor sound
Amid their radiant orbs be found?
In reason's ear they all rejoice,
And utter forth a glorious voice,
Forever singing as they shine,
'The hand that made us is divine.' "
—Joseph Addison.

4. How universal is the voice of God in nature said to be? Verse 4, first part (see marginal reading).

NOTE.—"Through the creation we are to become acquainted with the Creator. The book of nature is a great lesson book, which in connection with the Scriptures we are to use in teaching others of His character, and guiding lost sheep back to the fold of God. As the works of God are studied, the Holy Spirit flashes conviction into the mind. . . . In these lessons direct from nature, there is a simplicity and purity that makes them of the highest value. All need the teaching to be derived from this source. In itself the beauty of nature leads the soul away from sin and worldly attractions, and toward purity, peace, and God."—"Christ's Object Lessons," p. 24.

5. Where is the sun represented as being placed? Ans.—In the heavens. Verse 4, last part.

6. What simile is used to represent the daily appearance of the orb of light? Verse 5.

7. In what words does the psalmist present the daily course of the sun? How penetrating are the sun's rays? Verse 6.

8. What is the character of God's law? What is its effect? Verse 7, first part.

NOTE.—"The law is an expression of the thought of God; when received in Christ, it becomes our thought. It lifts us above the power of natural desires and tendencies, above temptations that lead to sin. God desires us to be happy, and He gave us the precepts of the law that in obeying them we might have joy."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 308.

9. How is God's testimony represented? What follows its acceptance? Verse 7, last part.

NOTE.—"There is nothing more calculated to energize the mind and strengthen the intellect than the study of the word of God. No other book is so potent to elevate the thoughts, to give vigor to the faculties, as the broad, ennobling truths of the Bible. If God's word were studied as it should be, men would have a breadth of mind, a nobility of character, and a stability of purpose that are rarely seen in these times. The search for truth will reward the seeker at every turn, and each discovery will open up richer fields for his investigations."—"Counsels to Teachers," p. 460.

10. What do the statutes of God do for the human heart? How is man's understanding influenced by the commandment of the Lord? Verse 8; Eph. 1:18.

11. What is the result of godly fear? How complete are God's judgments? Ps. 19:9.

NOTE.—"If we were to cherish an habitual impression that God sees and hears all that we do and say, and keeps a faithful record of our words and actions, and that we must meet it all, we would fear to sin. Let the young ever remember that wherever they are, and whatever they do, they are in the presence of God. No part of our conduct escapes observation. We can not hide our ways from the Most High. Human laws, though sometimes severe, are often transgressed without detection, and hence with impunity. But not so with the law of God. The deepest midnight is no cover for the guilty one. He may think himself alone; but to every deed there is an unseen witness. The very motives of his heart are open to divine inspection. Every act, every word, every thought, is as distinctly marked as though there were only one person in the whole world, and the attention of heaven were centered upon him."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 217, 218.

12. What comparisons are used to emphasize the desirability of God's judgments? Verse 10.

13. What is the result of heeding God's statutes, laws, and judgments? Verse 11.

NOTE.—"God desired to make of His people Israel a praise and a glory. Every spiritual advantage was given them. God withheld from them nothing favorable to the formation of character that would make them representatives of Himself. Their obedience to the law of God would make them marvels of prosperity before the nations of the world."—"Christ's Object Lessons," p. 288.

14. What question does the psalmist ask? What personal desire does he express? Verse 12.

NOTE.—"Sin may be concealed, denied, covered up from father, mother, wife, children, and associates; no one but the guilty actors may cherish the least suspicion of the wrong; but it is laid bare before the intelligences of heaven. The darkness of the darkest night, the secrecy of all deceptive arts, is not sufficient to veil one thought from the knowledge of the Eternal. God has an exact record of every unjust

account and every unfair dealing. He is not deceived by appearances of piety. He makes no mistakes in His estimation of character. Men may be deceived by those who are corrupt in heart, but God pierces all disguises, and reads the inner life."—"The Great Controversy," p. 486.

Realizing all this, the psalmist pleads with God for cleansing, knowing that He alone can try the heart, and apply the healing remedies to the soul. It is vitally important that each of us partake fully of this same desire, nor rest until it is fulfilled to us.

15. From what does David desire to be kept? Why did he desire this keeping power? Verse 13.

NOTE.—The nature of presumptuous sin is not always understood. In Volume 5, pages 435, 436, the spirit of prophecy speaks of presumptuous sin as follows: "When the light shines, making manifest and reproving the errors that were undiscovered, there must be a corresponding change in the life and character. The mistakes that are the natural result of blindness of mind, are, when pointed out, no longer sins of ignorance or errors of judgment; but unless there are decided reforms in accordance with the light given, they then become presumptuous sins. The moral darkness that surrounds you will become more dense; your heart will become harder and harder, and you will be more offensive in the sight of God."

16. What in particular did the psalmist desire should be under God's control? Verse 14, first part.

NOTE.—"He who beholds the Saviour's matchless love will be elevated in thought, purified in heart, transformed in character. He will go forth to be a light to the world, to reflect in some degree this mysterious love. The more we contemplate the cross of Christ, the more fully shall we adopt the language of the apostle when he said, 'God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.' "—"The Desire of Ages," p. 661.

"It would be well for us to spend a thoughtful hour each day in contemplation of the life of Christ. . . . As we associate together, we may be a blessing to one another. If we are Christ's, our sweetest thoughts will be of Him. We shall love to talk of Him; and as we speak to one another of His love, our hearts will be softened by divine influences. Beholding the beauty of His character, we shall be 'changed into the same image from glory to glory.' "—Id., p. 83.

17. What titles does David apply to the Lord? Verse 14, last part.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS

Next Quarter

"The Book of Isaiah"

Lesson 1: Scripture, Isaiah 6.

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