

Introduction—Have ready a crown (made of gilt paper). Call one of the boys to the front and place the crown upon his head while you talk about a KING. (Or outline a crown. Or paste on the board one made of paper.) Who wears a crown? Can everybody be a king? Who is our king? (Show a picture, if possible.) Where does he live? Who is King over all the world? Print, GOD IS KING OF KINGS.

His Own Way—Harry Willson's father always chose what boys should be the playmates of his little son. Harry saw other boys playing on the street with any boys who happened to come along. He grew unhappy, and wanted to choose his own playmates. "Father, I would rather play with Jack than with Willie, please let me ask Jack to come and play." At last Harry's father said, "Well, my boy, have your own way, but mother and I warn you of the trouble you may have with your new companion", but Harry took his own way. Tell of the troubles that followed Jack's visit—playthings were broken and even taken away by Jack—Harry had not a bit of fun while Jack played in the yard—Jack quarreled with him. You see what Harry got for being bound to have his own way.

Lesson—We are going to hear a story almost like this about God's people, the children of Israel (what do you remember about them?) God had always chosen and planned for them—had chosen their captains and judges, and had always done the very best for them; but (like Harry) they wanted to do what other nations did. These had kings to rule them, and the Israelites wanted to have a king, too.

Wanting Their Own Way—Samuel (recall) was their judge, chosen for them by God. Tell, in a simple, bright way, of the people's request (v. 5). What did Samuel do (v. 6)? What did God say to Samuel (vs. 7-9)?

Samuel's Warning—God told Samuel to warn the people of the evils and troubles that would come to them if they chose a king to rule over them. They were putting away an unseen King who gave all things, for a king who would take all things. How foolish to stop letting God plan for them!

Golden Text—Repeat and explain.

God My King—Let God plan and choose for you. Pray to Him to show you what He wants you to do. Obey Him. Take Jesus for your King.

Something to Think About—Jesus is my King.

FROM THE PLATFORM
By Rev. J. M. Duncan, B.D.

THE PEOPLE'S DEMAND THE PROPHET'S PICTURE THE LORD'S GIFT

What was the THE PEOPLE'S DEMAND (Print) in the Lesson? Of whom did they make this demand? Through what leaders was it made? What position did Samuel hold? From whom did he seek instruction as to the appointing of a king? What was he told to do? Such questions as these will lead up to the PROPHET'S (tell the scholars that Samuel was a prophet as well as a judge) PICTURE (Print). A little questioning will bring out that vs. 10-18 present a picture in words of the sort of king the people would get if they had their way. Touch lightly on the different features of the portrait. To whom did Samuel again go when the people were still bent (vs. 19, 20) on having a king? V. 21 is the answer, and v. 22 tells of the LORD'S GIFT (Print) of such a king as Israel desired. Call for the Golden Text, and emphasize the truth that over all earthly rulers is God our heavenly King whom we should honor and obey most of all.