

11 And he said, If the Syr'i-ans be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me: but if the children of Am'mon be too strong for thee, then I will come and help thee.

12 Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God: and the Lord do that which seemeth him good.

13 And Jo'ab drew nigh, and the people that were with him, unto the battle against the Syr'i-ans: and they fled before him.

14 And when the children of Am'mon saw that the Syr'i-ans were fled, then fled they also before Ab-i-sha'i, and entered into the city. So Jo'ab returned from the children of Am'mon, and came to Jerusalem.

15 And when the Syr'i-ans saw that they were smitten before Is'ra-el, they gathered themselves together.

16 And Had-a-re-zer sent, and brought out the Syr'i-ans that were beyond the river; and they came to He'lam; and Sho'bach the captain of the host of Had-a-re-zer went before them.

17 And when it was told Da'vid, he gathered all Is'ra-el together, and passed over Jor'dan, and came to He'lam. And the Syr'i-ans set themselves in array against Da'vid, and fought with him.

18 And the Syr'i-ans fled before Is'ra-el; and Da'vid slew the men of seven hundred chariots of the Syr'i-ans, and forty thousand horsemen, and smote Sho'bach the captain of their host, who died there.

19 And when all the kings that were servants to Had-a-re-zer saw that they were smitten before Is'ra-el, they made peace with Is'ra-el, and served them. So the Syr'i-ans feared to help the children of Am'mon any more.

Am'mon be too strong for thee, then I will come and help thee. Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God: and the Lord do that which seemeth him good. So Jo'ab and the people that were with him drew nigh unto the battle against the Syr'i-ans; and they fled before him. And when the children of Am'mon saw that the Syr'i-ans were fled, they likewise fled before Ab-i-sha'i, and entered into the city. Then Jo'ab returned from the children of Am'mon, and came to Jerusalem. And when the Syr'i-ans saw that they were put to the worse before Is'ra-el, they gathered themselves together. And Had-a-re-zer sent, and brought out the Syr'i-ans that were beyond the River: and they came to He'lam, with Sho'bach the captain of the host of Had-a-re-zer at their head. 17 And it was told Da'vid; and he gathered all Is'ra-el together, and passed over Jor'dan, and came to He'lam. And the Syr'i-ans set themselves in array against Da'vid, and fought with him. And the Syr'i-ans fled before Is'ra-el; and Da'vid slew of the Syr'i-ans the men of seven hundred chariots, and forty thousand horsemen, and smote Sho'bach the captain of their host, 19 that he died there. And when all the kings that were servants to Had-a-re-zer saw that they were put to the worse before Is'ra-el, they made peace with Is'ra-el, and served them. So the Syr'i-ans feared to help the children of Am'mon any more.

**TIME.**—Perhaps B. C. 1034. **PLACES.**—Rabbath, or Rabbah, the capital of the Ammonites; a plain surrounding the fortified city of Medeba; Hamath, a Syrian metropolis not far from Damascus. **ENVIRONMENTS.**—David's career as an outlaw had been hard, but as soon as he became monarch of the united people everything else seemed within his reach. The nation was ready for reorganization, and it was comparatively easy to extend the empire from the edge of Egypt to the Euphrates. Read 2 Sam. chaps. 8 and 10, to understand how this war was precipitated. King Hanun must have supposed himself wholly able to cope with David, whose sudden rise was a wonder to all surrounding nations. In the battle which we are to study Joab was in command of the Israelites.

### HOME READINGS.

- M. David's Victories. 2 Sam. 10. 8-19.  
 Tu. A song of victory. Exod. 15. 1-11.  
 W. Divine preservation. 1 Chron. 18. 1-13.  
 Th. Trust in God. Psalm 144.  
 F. Deliverance from God. Psalm 18. 32-50.  
 S. Praise for deliverance. Psalm 54.  
 S. The soul's warfare. Eph. 6. 10-20.

### LESSON HYMNS.

- No. 430, New Canadian Hymnal.  
 "Be ye strong in the Lord and the power of his might!"

### No. 410, New Canadian Hymnal.

Fear not! God is thy shield,  
 And he thy great reward;  
 His might has won the field;  
 Thy strength is in the Lord.

### No. 198, New Canadian Hymnal.

The Lord is my light, then why should I fear?  
 By day and by night his presence is near;  
 He is my salvation from sorrow and sin;  
 This blessed persuasion the Spirit brings in.

### QUESTIONS FOR SENIOR STUDENTS.

#### 1. The Lord's Battle against Ammon,

v. 8-14.

What three nations became tributaries to David? (2 Sam. 8. 2, 6, 14.)

What dignity did the Ammonites offer? (Verses 1-5.)

Who came out against Israel?

What allies had the Ammonites?

Who was in command of Israel?

Whom did Joab array against the Syrians?

Who was in command against Ammon?

What agreement did Joab and Abishai make?

How did Joab exhort his brother?

How did the battle with the Syrians go?

How did that with Ammon turn out?