

Work and Win.

WHATEVER you have to do, my boys,
Be sure you do it right;
If life is but a battle, boys,
Be faithful in the fight.

Don't cringe and squirm in any way,
But buckle down to work;
Let those around you plainly see,
You do not act the shirk.

If lessons hard are given you,
Don't murmur nor complain;
Just buckle down and study hard,
And victory attain.

Yes, that's the way to do, my boys,
If you would honoured be;
The good, the great, have fought and worked,
As you can plainly see.

Then fight and work, and strive and strike,
Aim high when you begin;
Just buckle boldly down to work,
And you will surely win.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN JEWISH HISTORY.

B.C. 1079] LESSON VII. [Aug. 18
SAUL REJECTED BY THE LORD.

1 Sam. 15. 10-23. Memory vers. 22, 23

GOLDEN TEXT.

Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king. 1 Sam. 15. 23.

OUTLINE.

1. The Rejected Word, v. 10-21.
2. The Rejected King, v. 22, 23.

TIME.—1079 B.C.

PLACE.—Gilgal.

CONNECTING LINKS.—With the end of Samuel's farewell address began the reign of Saul. Sixteen years have passed as the interval of history between these two lessons: years full of the trials which came to Saul as king, in a time when enemies were upon every hand, and full of temptations which finally caused his ruin. To attempt to detail the story would take more than our space. At last Saul committed one overt act of disobedience to God, and Samuel in his extreme old age was sent forth to meet him as he came from Carmel to Gilgal. There occurred the scene which our lesson records.

EXPLANATIONS.—*It repenteth me*—God is represented always as subject to emotions of a finite character. Saul was God's choice as king, and if he would could have wrought out obedience to God's will. But he chose to disobey, and, to be just, God could do nothing but reject him, and so human language pictures God's attitude toward the persistent sinner as if God had changed; but it was Saul and not God who had changed. *Set him up a place*—Saul probably set him up a monument or memorial of his victory. *Fly upon the spoil*—That is, Saul had hastened to take for plunder or booty the choicest of the flocks and herds instead of obeying God.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *The Rejected Word.*
Why did God repent of having chosen Saul to be king?
What is meant by God's repenting?
What had been Samuel's relations to the king through these years?
Why did Samuel grieve so over God's message?
When they met, was Saul's salutation intended to deceive?
What was the commandment to which Saul referred? 1 Sam. 15. 3.
Had Saul broken the commandment in the letter or the spirit?
What excuse had he to offer for his course?
How did Samuel interpret Saul's action?
How did Saul show that he knew he had disobeyed in spirit? ver. 21.
What bearing has verse 17 on the duty of Saul?
2. *The Rejected King.*
What great principles does Samuel oppose to Saul's specious excuse?

What has God been ever trying to teach me as between the ritual and the spiritual keeping of law?
What was Christ's position on this subject? Matt. 23. 23.

What was the consequence of Saul's disobedience?

What two sins did Samuel lay to Saul's charge?

What was the effect of this message on Saul? vers. 24, 25.

What was the end of this sad errand to Saul? ver. 35.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Here is fidelity of the highest type. It weeps for its friend, yet it obeys God.

Here is infidelity equally pronounced. It disobeys God, and strives to deceive its friend.

Here is the old struggle of the race. God said, Go! Do! Man said, I will go and do as I please.

I will obey; almost will not do.

Here is the old excuse of Adam. "The woman tempted," etc. Hear Saul, "The people took of the spoil," etc.

Do you pass your sins over upon some one else?

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments."

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Learn all that you can about the Amalekites.
2. Study Saul's reign from the time of Samuel's farewell to this lesson.
3. Study out carefully the geography, to make sure you understand how this all happened.
4. Write out in your own language such a dialogue as might have occurred between Samuel and Saul.
5. Read the rest of this chapter, and study it in its relations to the lesson.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Whither did Jehovah send Saul? To destroy the Amalekites.
2. How did Saul disobey? He saved the best of the spoil.
3. What excuse did Saul make for this act? That they were for a sacrifice.
4. What lesson did Samuel then teach him? "Obedience is better than sacrifice."
5. What judgment was then pronounced against him? "Because thou hast rejected," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The fruit of disobedience.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

38. What do you mean by the omniscience of God?
That God knows all things—past and present and future.
39. How does the Scripture describe this knowledge?
It teaches that God knows every thought in man's heart, every word, and every action.

B.C. 1063] LESSON VIII. [Aug. 25

THE ANOINTING OF DAVID.

1 Sam. 16. 1-13. Memory verses, 11-13.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. 1 Sam. 16. 7.

OUTLINE.

1. As Man Looketh, v. 1-10.
2. As the Lord Looketh, v. 11-13.

TIME.—1063 B.C.

PLACE.—Bethlehem.

CONNECTING LINKS.—After Samuel had announced to Saul that God had rejected him, and had given him the reasons, they separate, Samuel going back to Ramah, and they never met but once more. The aged prophet seems to have long mourned for Saul, whom he doubtless really loved; but at last God's word came to him to go and anoint another to be king over Israel. It is the story of this errand that makes our lesson.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Fill thine horn with oil*—The oil meant is probably the holy anointing oil described in Exod. 30. 23-33. *Take a heifer with thee*—That is, in order to conceal from the public the real nature of his mission. *Trembled at his coming*—He was known for a stern judge, and they feared he came for punishment of some sin. *He was ruddy*—Many think this refers to the colour of his hair, since red hair was regarded as a rare mark of beauty in the Orient.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *As Man Looketh.*
What was the effect of Saul's rejection on Samuel?
How was he roused from his sadness?
What characteristic human quality did Samuel display?
Can you recall a similar one from the life of Moses? See Exod. 3. 11, and 4. 10, 13.
Why should the elders have felt troubled at his coming?
What made Samuel desire to anoint Eliab?
What ancient idea is thereby exemplified?
What essential difference between man's way and God's way of judgment is here given?
What is meant by looking on the heart?
2. *As the Lord Looketh.*
How was David brought into the notice of the prophet?
Did Samuel anoint David because he was the only one left?
How public was the anointing?
Why was no precaution taken against the matter becoming known?
What was the effect of the anointing?
Did Samuel and David ever meet again? 1 Sam. 19. 18.
What effect did this act probably have on his after life?
What evidence does our lesson furnish that David's character was different from that of the brothers?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

See how God teaches the lesson of submission to his will. Ver. 1.
Here is the only cure for earth's sorrows: an ear open to God's commands; a heart that says, Obey.
A lesson in expediency: Avoid any act that seems hostile to constituted authority, but obey God.
What makes a Christian? Not a good face; not good dress; not stature; not Church membership; not anything external. A right heart makes a Christian.
The submissive spirit receives the divine outpouring. David anointed became David consecrated. So spiritual change often comes to souls to-day: submission to God's methods makes commission to God's work.

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Trace the journey from Ramah to Bethlehem, by means of a good map. How long was Samuel's journey?
2. Trace the ancestry of David. What blood flowed in his veins?
3. Find two evidences of Samuel's wide acquaintance in the country.
4. Find such allusions as you can in the Scriptures to this call of God to David. Psa. 78. 70, 71; 2 Sam. 7. 8; Psa. 89. 20, etc.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. How was Saul's place as king to be filled? By another chosen by God.
2. Who was made the messenger of this choice? Samuel, who had anointed Saul.
3. In what words did God announce to Samuel the man of his choice? "Arise, anoint him: for this is he."
4. What was the effect of this act upon David? The Spirit of the Lord came upon him.
5. What did God tell Samuel was his method of choice? "Man looketh on the outward," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Conversion.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

40. What is meant by saying that God is all-wise?
That God does everything in the best and most perfect way, for the accomplishment of his purpose.
With him is wisdom and strength, he hath counsel and understanding. Job 12. 13.

If all the children were converted, and continued to love and serve God, the time would come when there would be no saloons—for Christians do not support saloons; and there would be no criminals in our gaols and prisons, for Christians are not murderers or thieves; and there would be no tattlers, for Christians do not carry news; and no proud or envious people, for God saves his people from these things.

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