

ABSALOM'S DEFEAT AND DEATH.

August 30.

Les. 2 Sam. 18: 9-17, 32, 33. Gol. Text, Ps. 1: 6.
Mem. vs. 32, 33 Catechism, Q. 76, 77.*Time.*—B. C. 1023, shortly after the last lesson.*Places.*—Mahanaim, east of the Jordan (vs. 32, 33); the wood of Ephraim, south of Mahanaim (vs. 9-17.)**LESSON OUTLINE.**

- I. Caught in the Oak. vs. 9-13.
- II. Slain by Joab. vs. 14-17.
- III. Mourned by His Father. vs. 32, 33.

QUESTIONS.

- What did David do when he heard of Absalom's rebellion?
Where did he flee from Jerusalem?
Who counseled an immediate pursuit of David?
How was this counsel defeated? Wednesday's Reading.
What was the effect of this delay?
Who commanded Absalom's forces?
What three generals commanded David's army?
What charge did David give about Absalom?
Where was the battle fought?
How did it end?
How were the tidings taken to David?
How was he affected?

WHAT THE LESSON TEACHES.

1. Filial ingratitude brings curse upon itself.
2. A father's love would guard his child even when he has sinned.
3. Justice seems cruel at times even when right.
4. A father would willingly suffer for his son's sin if he could.
5. Even a father's love cannot save a son from sin's penalties.

DAVID'S LOVE FOR GOD'S HOUSE.

September 6.

Les. 1 Chron. 22: 6-16. Gol. Text, Ps. 84: 4.
Mem. vs. 11-13. Catechism Q. 78.*Time.*—About B.C. 1018-1015, not long before David's death.*Place.*—Jerusalem.**LESSON OUTLINE.**

- I. David's Mind to Build. vs. 6-10.
- II. David's Charge to Solomon. vs. 11-13.
- III. David's Preparation. vs. 14-16.

QUESTIONS.

- What was the condition of David's kingdom after his restoration?

Which of his sons was selected as his successor?

What did he charge Solomon to do?

Why had the Lord not permitted David to build the temple?

What had the Lord promised respecting Solomon?

What further charge did David give Solomon?

What preparations had David made for building the temple?

What charge did he give to the princes of Israel? v. 17.

WHAT THE LESSON TEACHES.

1. God blesses even our desires to honor and serve him.
2. Each of us has his own part of God's work to do.
3. It is often a son's duty to finish what his father began.
4. God will use us if only we are faithful to him.
5. Much of our work is only preparation for the work of others.—*Westminster Question Book.*

A GOOD HABIT.

Some one asks: Why not form the habit of saying kindly things? Of course the kind words are not to be spoken unless uttered with sincerity, but if a kindly heart-bearing towards others is cultivated, the mouth will then speak out of the abundance of the heart.

The counsel is a good one. The only way to make sure of always saying kindly things is to get the habit wrought into our life so firmly that nothing can ever make us break it. The time to begin forming this habit is just now.

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