

LESSON VI.

DAVID AND GOLIATH

August 9, 1908

1 Samuel 17: 38-49. Commit to memory vs. 48, 49. Study 1 Samuel 17: 1 to 18: 5.

GOLDEN TEXT—In the Lord put I my trust.—Psalm 11: 1.

38 And Saul ¹ armed Da'vid with his ² armour, and he put an helmet of brass upon his head; ³ also he armed him with a coat of mail.

39 And Da'vid girded his sword upon his ² armour, and he assayed to go; for he had not proved *it*. And Da'vid said unto Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved *them*. And Da'vid put them off him.

40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in ⁴ a shepherd's bag which he had, even in ⁵ a scrip; and his sling *was* in his hand; and he drew near to the Philistine.

41 And the Philistine came on and drew near unto Da'vid; and the man that bare the shield *went* before him.

42 And when the Philistine looked about, and saw Da'vid, he disdained him: for he *was* but a youth, and ruddy, and ⁶ of a fair countenance.

43 And the Philistine said unto Da'vid, *Am I a dog*, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed Da'vid by his gods.

44 And the Philistine said to Da'vid, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air,

Revised Version—¹ clad; ² apparel; ³ and he clad; ⁴ the; ⁵ his; ⁶ withal; ⁷ javelin; ⁸ which; ⁹ off; ¹⁰ that; ¹¹ may; ¹² hand; ¹³ hastened; ¹⁴ and; ¹⁵ sank.

LESSON PLAN

- I. The Champion, 38-40.
- II. The Challenge, 41-47.
- III. The Combat, 48, 49.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—David and Goliath, 1 Sam. 17: 1-11. T.—David and Goliath, 1 Sam. 17: 12-27. W.—David and Goliath, 1 Sam. 17: 28-37. Th.—David and Goliath, 1 Sam. 17: 38-54. F.—David and Goliath, 1 Sam. 17: 55 to 18: 5. S.—The Lord our help, Ps. 124. S.—The Christian's armor, Eph. 6: 10-18.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 98. What is prayer?

EXPOSITION

Time and Place—Not long before B.C. 1000 (Ussher, B.C. 1063); the Valley of Elah (see Geography Lesson).

Connecting Links—David, the young shepherd, was a skilful player on the harp. To this accomplishment he owed his first summons to the court of Saul, when an evil spirit, likely a form of melancholy madness, had seized the king. David's music proved able to drive out the evil spirit, ch. 16: 14-23.

The Philistine war continued all through Saul's reign (ch. 14: 52), and David's next appearance was during an invasion of Israel by their old foes. In days before firearms made men's size of little account in battle, it was not uncommon for single combats to be waged between picked champions from either side. Personal valor and physical strength were prime qualities. The Iliad of Homer is little else than stories of the mighty deeds of single warriors. Such a warrior was Goliath, a giant in size, ten feet high, a giant

and to the beasts of the field.

45 Then said Da'vid to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield; but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Is'rael, ⁸ whom thou hast defied.

46 This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from ⁹ thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Is'rael.

47 And ¹⁰ all this assembly ¹¹ shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle *is* the Lord's, and he will give you into our ¹² hands.

48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet Da'vid, that Da'vid ¹³ hastened, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

49 And Da'vid put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang *it*, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, ¹⁴ that the stone ¹⁵ sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

A. Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgement of his mercies.

The Question on Missions—6. How are churches and manses provided? The first services are nearly always held in private houses or school houses. But each community is anxious to have its church and manse, and is ready to make sacrifices for such an object. The Church and Manse Building Fund helps with a grant or loan.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 46 (Supplemental Lesson); 250; 256; 49 (Ps. Sel.); 246 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 533.

Special Scripture Reading—Ps. 91. (To be read responsively or in concert by the whole School.)

in strength, and wielding the weapons of a giant. Day by day he stepped forward from the Philistine ranks, on the slope of a valley over against that on which Israel's army was mustered, vaunting his own prowess and taunting his enemies, as Arab clansmen do to this day in their clan feuds. "Why do you come out in the line of battle? Am not I a Philistine, and ye servants of Saul?" He is a sample of his people. Let Saul's men choose them out a warrior to meet him. But no man dared do it; there was dismay among Saul's men. But David, coming upon the scene, said to Saul, "I will go and fight this Philistine". He persuaded Saul to let him go, confident that Jehovah, the heavenly Champion of Israel would give him the victory. "Go", said Saul, "and Jehovah be with thee." (See vs. 1-37.)

I. The Champion, 38-40.

Vs. 38-40. *Saul clad David with his apparel* (Rev. Ver.); to fit him for the combat.