

**The Books I Bought With Cigar Money.**

BY JOHN BANVARD.

"A NICE cigar" I never smoked,  
And never wanted to;  
But frequently I'm nearly choked  
By friends of mine that do.

"How many," once I asked a friend,  
"Cigars smoke you a day?"  
And as he puffed he answered: "Ten  
In smoke I puff away."

"How much," I asked, "does each one  
cost?"

"Ten cents," he said, "I pay."  
To me it was just so much lost,  
And money thrown away.

Then I resolved that I would spend  
The same precise amount  
For what to me would pleasure lend,  
And that of some account.

And so each week some books I bought  
Instead of "light cigars,"  
And these to me great pleasure brought,  
Much more than smoking far.

Six times more pleasure, too, I got  
Than e'er my friend received;  
Six children mine enjoy my lot,  
Who all my volumes read.

**LESSON NOTES.**

THIRD QUARTER.

B.C. 1063] LESSON IX. [Sept. 1

DAVID AND GOLIATH.

1 Sam. 17. 32-51. Memory verses, 45, 46

GOLDEN TEXT.

If God be for us, who can be against us?  
Rom. 8. 31.

OUTLINE.

1. Saul and David, v. 32-39.
2. David and Goliath, v. 40-51.

TIME.—1063 B.C.

PLACE.—Some point in Southern Judah.

CONNECTING LINKS.—After the anointing of David, the Spirit of God is said to have departed from Saul, and his courtiers advised entertainment by a skillful harper to quiet him in his mental troubles. David was known for his skill in the use of the harp, and was therefore employed, and was for a time in Saul's court. At last he went back to his father at Bethlehem. War arose between the Philistines and Israelites, and three brothers of David were in the army. To them their father sent by David supplies from home. Going to the army he found them in fear because of the challenge of the giant Goliath, and moved by God's Spirit he undertook the combat. Our lesson tells the story.

EXPLANATIONS.—*A shepherd's bag*—Probably somewhat like a knapsack. *His sling*—This has been a very effective weapon of war. In early times and in classical story frequent mention is made of it. *All this assembly*—That is, the two armies.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *Saul and David.*  
Was this the first acquaintance of Saul and David? 1 Sam. 16. 19-23.  
What was the occasion of his leaving Saul? vers. 13-15.  
What was the occasion of his presence now in the army? ver. 17.  
How came he to be in the presence of the king? vers. 26-31.  
How did his offer appear to the king?  
On what two points did David base his confidence?  
Can you find an argument here that David though a youth was not small and light? What is it?  
In what did David show his wisdom?
2. *David and Goliath.*  
Who was Goliath?  
How did they approach each other?  
What ancient custom found also in classical literature is here illustrated?  
What was to be the result of this combat? vers. 8, 9.  
For what does David claim this combat was to be fought?

How was this same thought repeated many years later by king Asa? 2 Chron. 14. 11.

What was the method of David's warfare? what did he do to ensure the certainty of victory?

How does this sword of Goliath afterwards appear in David's history? 1 Sam. 21. 8-10.

What was the result of this battle?

- (1) On the Philistines?
- (2) On David? 1 Sam. 18. 6-9.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Here was a young man with the courage of his convictions: he believed God would help him fight this champion, and he was brave enough to act up to his belief.

Here was perfect faith. Not, I hope the Lord will deliver; not, I think he will deliver; not, I pray he will deliver; but, *He will deliver me.* Is that your honest faith in Christ?

Here was a plain, simple, honest man, not trying to be more than he was.

He could not use Saul's sword. He could use his own sling. He was not ashamed to use the weapons in which he was skilled. Are you?

He followed up the stone from his sling with a blow from his enemy's own sword.

He did not half do his work. He made it thorough. He left no chance for the giant to recover from the stun of the stone. How do you treat sin?

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Read the story of the Philistines.
2. Locate geographically this people.
3. Locate on the map this battle-field.
4. Find in Roman history a parallel story?
5. Find in earlier history a record of some jealous brethren.
6. Write the most important sentence for us to remember that this lesson contains.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What event was the occasion for the story of our lesson? A war with the Philistines. 2. To what issue did the Philistines challenge Israel? To that of single combat. 3. Who offered to take up the challenge? David, the shepherd of Bethlehem. 4. What was the one purpose of his offer? To show that God ruled in Israel. 5. What thought of the Apostle Paul is like that of David? "If God be for us," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Trust in God.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

41. What is meant by saying that God is holy?

That his nature is perfectly good and without the possibility of evil, and that he cannot allow sin in his creatures.

Ye shall be holy; for I am holy.—Lev. 11. 44.

B.C. 1062] LESSON X. [Sept. 8

DAVID AND JONATHAN.

1 Sam. 20. 1-13. Memory vers. 3, 4

GOLDEN TEXT.

There is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. Prov. 18. 24.

OUTLINE.

1. David's Danger, v. 1-3.
2. David's Device, v. 4-8.
3. Jonathan's Oath, v. 9-13.

TIME.—1062 B.C.

PLACE.—Gibeah.

CONNECTING LINKS.—After the victory Saul took David to his court. At once honor and praise were showered upon him because of his slaughter of the Philistine. But the popularity of David aroused Saul's anger, and he determined to kill him. But for Jonathan's friendship it seems that this might have been accomplished. Repeatedly, and in all ways, Saul sought his life, and at last he was compelled to go into outlawry and exile. The story of his final departure from Saul's court, and of the compact between David and Jonathan, is told in our lesson.

EXPLANATIONS.—*The new moon*—The beginning of the Jewish month when all Israel, by law, must offer a burnt-offering unto the Lord. *I should not fail*, etc.—The words of a loyal courtier who wished to do his duty and yet feared for his life. *A yearly sacrifice*—In the old age of David's father, he seems to have formed this custom of gathering his family for a great festival. *A covenant of the Lord*—That is, a covenant in the name of the Lord, made with religious ceremonies.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *David's Danger.*  
From whom was David in danger?  
What had caused Saul's hostility?  
How had he attempted to arrest David?  
1 Sam. 19. 20, 21.  
What had prevented the arrest? 1 Sam. 19. 22-24.  
How did David escape from this peril?  
To what place did he flee?  
What reason did he give to Jonathan why his father did not inform him of his purpose?
2. *David's Device.*  
What reason could David have had for thinking Saul's purpose changed? ver. 2.  
How did he propose to discover the real feeling of Saul?  
Was this superstition, or was it a sensible proposal? Give the reason for this answer.  
Was there anything miraculous about it? Give a reason for your answer.  
What proof of conscious innocence is here? What confidence does he display in the love of Jonathan?
3. *Jonathan's Oath.*  
How did Jonathan prove his love—(1) In word? (2) In act? (3) In pledge?  
What evidence is there that Jonathan knew that David expected to be king? What evidence that Saul expected that David would aspire to the kingdom?  
1 Sam. 20. 31.  
What was the covenant that David and Jonathan made? vers. 16, 17.  
Did David keep his covenant? 2 Sam. 9. 1, 3, 7; 21. 7.  
What was the means by which Jonathan informed David of his father's wrath? vers. 19-22.  
In what words did Jonathan once more repeat his oath? ver. 42.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Learn the lesson of love: It protects, or attempts it. ver. 2. It promises help. ver. 4. It pledges fidelity. ver. 9. It asks love in return. vers. 14, 15. But this is human love only.

"God so loved the world," etc, John 3. 16.

"Herein is love, not that we," etc. 1 John 4. 10.

"There is a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Learn how David came to be at Naioth.
2. Locate Naioth geographically.
3. Learn what you can about the allusion in chap. 19. 20, to a "company of prophets."
4. Write out in the form of our present speech all the conversation of David and Jonathan.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What did David try to learn from Jonathan? The cause of Saul's wrath. 2. What did Jonathan try to persuade David? That Saul was not angry. 3. Upon what did they two agree? To stand firmly by each other. 4. What is the great lesson that is taught by these two lives in their mutual relations? The power of human love. 5. To what still greater lesson did David's son afterward give utterance? "There is a Friend," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Covenant keeping.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

42. How is God righteous or just? His laws and government are righteous; and he will reward and punish justly.

A LITTLE child was beseeching her father to take her to visit her grandmother who lived at a distance. To get rid of her, he said, "It costs ten dollars every time we go to see grandma, Florence, and ten dollars don't grow on every bush." "Neither do grandmas grow on every bush," answered the little girl, promptly; and her logic settled it. They went.

A LIFE in any sphere that is an expression and outflow of an honest, earnest, loving heart, taking counsel only of God and itself, will be certain to be a life of beneficence in the best possible direction.

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