

Absalom was a beautiful boy (ch. 14:25), but remember, "Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart," 1 Sam. 16:7. Absalom had a bad heart. He was a sneak. His father David had been angry with him, but had forgiven him. Absalom now shows his meanness.

Absalom's Plot—He wanted to be king. Describe his plan of making friends for himself and enemies to the king, vs. 2-6.

Absalom's Punishment—The story of Absalom's punishment and sad death may be told, ch. 18:9-17 (but be careful not to encroach too much on the next lesson).

Parental Love—How shown? What great love and respect we should give in return!

Golden Text—How can we honor our parents? God promises reward to those who do so.

Our Heavenly Father—Speak of His love: "Like as a father pitieth his children" (Ps. 103:13); "As one whom his mother comforteth" (Isa. 66:13); "Them that honor me, I will honor," 1 Sam. 2:30. In honoring our parents and the aged we are also honoring God.

Honored—"One day a little German girl named Jeannette witnessed a great army re-

view. Thousands of people crowded around the grand stand, before which the Emperor was to watch the passing regiments of soldiers. Jeannette was seated on the stand. She saw a feeble old woman trying to get where she could see. Jeannette said to herself, 'It is not right for me to sit here when I am well and strong, while that poor, feeble old woman can see nothing. I ought to honor old age, as I want some one to honor me when I am old.' So she gave her seat to the old woman and went and stood in the crowd.

"While she was standing on her tiptoes, trying in vain to see, a courtier of the Emperor, covered with gold lace, elbowed his way to her side and said, 'Little-girl, Her Majesty wishes to see you in the royal box.' When the abashed child stood before the Empress, she graciously said, 'Come here, my child, and sit with me. I saw you give your seat to that old woman, and now you must remain by my side.'"

What I Have Learned—I should honor my parents.

Blackboard—On the crown symbol print KING DAVID'S SON ABSALOM DISHONORS HIM. Outline Commandment tables. Print HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER.

BLACKBOARD REVIEW

By The Associate Editor

THE FAIR FALSE

Begin by asking for a description of Absalom's appearance. His face was beautiful, his form was graceful. Special notice is taken of his splendid hair. Absalom THE FAIR, he may well be called. But what about his heart? Bring out by questions the base conduct which revealed his character. His flattery of the people, his deceiving his father, his hypocrisy are the points. His actions showed him as Absalom THE FALSE. Next, get the scholars to tell how David had treated Absalom, allowing him to go unpunished for the murder of Amnon, and at last restoring him to favor. How much worse Absalom's conduct seems in the light of this kindness. Now turn attention to God's goodness to us, and especially His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. How should we show our sense of this goodness and love? Surely by loyal obedience. If we rebel against God, our guilt is greater than Absalom's, because God's love is greater than David's.