

## LESSON XI—September 13th, 1896.

### David's Gratitude to God. 2 SAM. 22: 40-51.

(Commit to memory verses 47-50).

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer." 2 Sam. 22: 2.

**PROVE THAT**—All our blessings come from God. Jas. 1: 17.

**SHORTER CATECHISM.** Quest. 79. *Which is the tenth commandment?* A. The tenth commandment is, Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor's.

**LESSON HYMNS.** *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 71, 168, 104, 29.

**DAILY PORTIONS.** *Monday.* A strong deliverer. 2 Sam. 22: 1-18. *Tuesday.* Safe trusting. 2 Sam. 22: 26-39. *Wednesday.* David's gratitude to God. 2 Sam. 22: 40-51. *Thursday.* Joyful trust. Ps. 71: 15-24. *Friday.* Confidence in God. Ps. 23. *Saturday.* Heartfelt thankfulness. Ps. 116. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

**INTRODUCTORY.** This song of thanksgiving is almost identical with the 18th Psalm. Its position in the book of Samuel is "not so much because of its historical value as because it is a national thanksgiving for the founding of that empire by which Israel became verily a theocratic people and the type upon earth of the kingdom of the Messiah." Read chapters 22 and 23; also Psalm 18. Time about 1040 B. C.

**LESSON PLAN.** I. Enemies Subdued. vs. 40-43. II. Honored and Exalted of the Lord. vs. 44-49. III. Gratitude Expressed. vs. 50, 51.

**1. Give me the necks of mine enemies**—"Make mine enemies turn their backs unto me" (R. V.) The psalmist recognized, what is befitting every Christian to do, namely, that his great deliverances from and triumphs over all his enemies were of the Lord's doing. **Might destroy**—"Might cut off" (R. V.) David realizing that the cause he had espoused was the Lord's, regarded the Lord's enemies as his enemies. The Lord's cause and that of his people is one and the same. **41. They cried**—"The cry of despair; like the mournful cry of the impotent that have sinned away their day of grace. **None to save**—Salvation is possible only in the divinely appointed way (Acts 4: 12; 1 Tim. 2: 5, 6). **Answered them not**—It is only the cry and prayer of the contrite spirit that the Lord regardeth (Ps. 34: 17, 18). **42. Small as the dust**—So completely did David triumph over his enemies that their power of resistance was as feeble as that of the dust before the wind. **As the mine**—In the east all the filth of the house in many places cast out into the street. It is here used as a term of "contempt and rejection." **43. Strivings of the people**—The petty jealousies and divisions that ever and anon arose between the different tribes. **43. Head of the heathen**—"Head of the nations" (R. V.) David's supremacy was acknowledged by the surrounding nations. When shall the nations own and acknowledge the supremacy of king Immanuel? **Shall serve me**—Nations that David had not known personally, as his kingdom grew in power, owned his authority. The nations of the earth are being transformed by the gospel, and are learning to serve the Lord Jesus instead of being slaves to the prince of darkness. **44. Shall obey me**—Obedience to his will is the duty God requireth of his children. They must first hear, know and accept the word of life before they can obey (Rom. 10: 14, 15). **45. Shall fade away**—Enemies shall become fewer, as they realize the insecurity of their lurking places. **46. The Lord liveth**—"The Lord is the living and true God, the life and life-giver, and no dumb idol. **46. My rock**—David uses many striking figures expressive of God in his relation to his people (v. 2, 3). **Exalted**—Honored and magnified. **47. Avenge me**—"Executeth vengeance" (R. V.) In subduing and punishing enemies, frustrating their wicked devices and plots. **48. Deliver me**—"Rescue me" (R. V.) The Lord delivereth those that trust in him by a strong and powerful arm (Dan. 3: 17). **Liftest me up**—"God resisteth the proud but giveth grace unto the humble" (Jas. 4: 6). **The violent man**—Referring especially to Saul, who was David's sworn enemy. **49. Will give thanks**—Every true believer will rejoice in rendering thanksgiving and giving praise to God (Ps. 92: 1; 1 Thess. 5: 18). **50. Great deliverance**—Salvation is a great work. It is all of grace (Eph. 2: 8). **Sheweth mercy**—"Loving kindness" (R. V.) God's mercies are of old and truly wonderful (Ps. 36: 7). **Anointed**—David was anointed three times (1 Sam. 16: 13; 2 Sam. 2: 4; 5: 3). Christ is so called because he is the anointed of God. His seed—Refers specially to Christ, in whom all the promises are fulfilled (Gal. 3: 19).

**LESSONS.** 1. Thanksgiving is an essential part of a truly religious life. 2. The prosperity of the righteous is of the Lord. 3. Christians ought to be like bright and shining lights in the world.