

end make way for one like to the Son of man, Dan. 7 : 13, 14. Work out the principle in Tennyson's Idyls of the King of the "beast" in history becoming less and less, and "Man" becoming more and more ; till, in the sway of Christ, and Christian principle, Man reaches his full rightful sovereignty in the dominance of the humane, instead of the brutal. David in his brave treatment of Saul anticipates David's greater son (see Matt. 5 : 44).

### For Teachers of the Senior Scholars

Question the class about some of the memorable experiences of David since he parted that sad day with Jonathan (see chs. 21-25). How did Saul continue to manifest his bitter enmity ? Why was the romantic incident contained in to-day's Lesson recorded ? What light does it throw on David's character ? Discuss the following :

1. *A Hazardous Adventure Planned*, vs. 5, 6. Ask one to describe the scene. Why did David propose so dangerous an enterprise ? Was it merely a romantic impulse, or was it another means of convincing Saul that he cherished no ill-will towards him ? Who volunteered to accompany David ? Note that a daring feat like this makes an earnest appeal to some natures, while others are deterred. Daring deeds done merely for show are foolish, but when done for service are noble.

2. *A Beautiful Spirit Manifested*, vs. 7-12. Picture David and Abishai as they creep silently into Saul's camp by night and look upon the king and all his men asleep, Saul's spear sticking in the ground at his bolster, and the cruse of water by his side. What thought did this night-scene suggest to Abishai ? (V. 8.) How did David receive this suggestion ? He saw clearly the evil of such a course (v. 9), and he realized that in God's own time and way Saul would be removed, v. 10. We never make a greater mistake than when by evil-doing we try to hurry Providence. Recent events will probably furnish a painful illustration of some one who ruined himself trying to get rich quick, trying to hurry Providence. A spirit of patient waiting and honest service is worth a great deal to us. What did David decide to do that night ? Why ?

3. *A Bantering Cry Heard*, vs. 13-16. Note that in revealing what he had done David administered a sharp rebuke to Abner. The absence of the king's spear and cruse of water was positive proof that David had it in his power to kill the king and yet had refrained from doing so. Will mercy in this case be twice blest ? David is blessed in showing it : will Saul be blessed in receiving it ? Make clear that we are always blessed in manifesting this heavenly spirit, and that a spirit of revenge is a curse to any life.

### For Teachers of the Boys and Girls

The scholars are all familiar with moving pictures. Tell them that the Lesson contains a wonderful set of moving pictures in words, and then help them to see these pictures one by one :

*Moving Picture I.* David (v. 5), in his wilderness camp, rises by night and comes to a high place where he can see the camp of Saul, who has come in pursuit of David, the king's tent in the centre and the tents of his army ranged round about. Discuss any points in the verse which need to be made plain.

*Moving Picture II.* David (v. 6) challenges two of his followers to go down with him to Saul's camp. Call for the names of the two and ask which accepted the challenge.

*Moving Picture III.* David and Abishai (vs. 7-12) go down together to the camp of Saul and find their way to the tent where the king lies sleeping, the spot being marked by a spear stuck in the ground. Abishai urges David to permit him to kill Saul, but David refuses, and the two go away, taking with them the king's spear and the cruse of water that stood by his head. There are plenty of points for question and discussion in these verses, in order that the whole scene may stand out vividly.

*Moving Picture IV.* Here (vs. 13-16) we see David standing on a high hill, with Saul's camp away in the distance. David cries out to Abner, the next in command to the king, and when Abner answers, David reproaches him with having been so careless as to allow the king's life to be in danger. In proof of what he says, David holds up before Abner's