

I dare not choose my lot :
I would not, if I might ;
Choose thou for me, my God,
So shall I walk aright.

Choose thou for me my friends,
My sickness or my health ;
Choose thou my cares for me,
My poverty or wealth.

Not mine, not mine the choice,
In things or great or small ;
Be thou my Guide, my Strength,
My Wisdom, and my All.

QUESTIONS, etc.

Recite TITLE.

To show what came of this choice, recite

TOPIC and GOLDEN TEXT.

Recite OUTLINE.

1. *The King of kings rejected*, v. 17-19.
Who is the King of kings?
How did they reject him? v. 19.
In view of what v. 18 states, what do you think of this rejection?
Was it worse than that of many persons now?
2. *A human king selected*, v. 17-19.
How was the king selected? v. 20, 21.
What reason for Saul's having hid is suggested in chap. 15. 17?
Why were the people pleased with him?
Tell what you think of Saul, after reading the following texts: v. 26, 27; chap. 13. 13, 14; 14. 29; 15. 11; 16. 14; 31. 2-4.
Which was more worthy, the chosen king, or the rejected?

Where in this lesson do we learn—

1. That God gave them their request?
2. That God sent them leanness of soul?

QUESTION AND ANSWER.

3. *With what disposition of mind ought we to read and hear God's holy word?*

We ought to read and hear God's holy word with a meek and teachable disposition; with faith; and an intention to practise it, by God's grace.

James 1. 21. Receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

Matthew 11. 25. At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

Galatians 4. 2. The word preached did not profit them, will being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

1st Cor. 13. 7, 17. If any man will do his will, he shall know the Father's doctrine, whether it be of God.

EXPOSITORY.

SAMUEL CALLED THE PEOPLE, ver. 17, to make known to them the name of the person indicated by Jehovah as their king. **I BROUGHT UP.** Words of reminders. They may have their longed-for king, but in receiving him they must hear a few words of remembrance from their wronged and rightful and rejected **KING. HAND.** Reminding them of the tight grip of bondage from which God delivered them. **THEM THAT OPPRESSED.** Amalek, Milian, Edom, Moab, and all the dwellers in Canaan. What a deliverer had God been! **THIS DAY REJECTED GOD.** Every day of continued adherence to an evil choice is a day of rejecting God. That day their choice was to be ratified—they were to receive their king. In proceeding to this appointment God reminds them of what he had been to them. But such is human perversity that we go right on regardless of all his love and care. *Psa. 78. 32.* **NOW THEREFORE PRESENT, &c.** Here is authority—God arises to action now—a king they chose, and a king they shall have. The order of presentation before the Lord is substantially as was that followed in the time of Achan. *Josh. 7. 14; Lesson VI.* The choice fell, as Samuel knew it would, upon Saul, ver. 21. **HE HATH HID HIMSELF**, ver. 22. Saul knew what was to come, although he perhaps thought the thing so unlikely that he failed to realize it. When, however, he saw the selection nearing himself, he hid, prompted, most likely, by genuine modesty, as he was young, unknown, and used only to a rural life under his father's eye. "The stuff" among which he was hid was the baggage of those who had come in to Mizpeh.

..... "The throne and its temptations spoiled in him a nature that was in many respects more beautiful than his stature."

..... "Saul was at first a beautiful vessel; at last an unsightly wreck."

THEY RAN, ver. 23. Eager to see their new ruler. When he could no longer escape notice "he stood among the people," or "presented himself in the midst of the people," as Dr. Hackett and Bliss translate it: "A manly rising up and showing himself in the end. SEE YE HIM," ver. 24. This is Samuel's admiring cry as he gazed on the gigantic proportions of Saul—who towered head and shoulders above the people—standing at least seven feet high, it would seem. "There is none like him," said Samuel. So in external appearance they had a