

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON XII.

March 21, 1915—Jonathan and His Armor-bearer.—1 Samuel 14: 1-46. Print 14: 1-13.

Commentary.—I. A bold attack (vs. 1-12). 1. The young man that bare his armor—He was Jonathan's trusted attendant, who proved himself both brave and strong on this occasion. Let us go over to the Philistines' garrison—The Philistines had come to the very centre of Israel's country with a great army, and were encamped on the opposite side of the valley from where Saul's small force was staying. Jonathan's suggestion to his attendant was a bold one. Told not his father—it was not in keeping with military tactics for such a movement as this to be undertaken. Saul would not be likely to approve of the project. 2. Utermost part of Gibeath—Saul, with his six hundred men and Samuel and Ahiah, the priest, was entrenched on one of the many hills of the extreme northern part of Gibeath. Migron—The name means precipice. Six hundred men—His army that he had had was reduced to this small company. 3. Ahiah—A great grandson of Eli. He was the high priest. Wearing an ephod—The ephod consisted of two parts, of which one covered the back, and the other the front, that is, the breast and upper part of the body. These were clasped together on the shoulder with two large onyx stones, each having engraved on it the names of the tribes of Israel. It was further united by a 'curious girdle' of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twisted linen round the waist. It was worn by the high priest of Israel.

4. Between the passages—From the description of the place it is evident there was a valley leading down to the main valley from where Saul was encamped, and one leading up on the other side to where the Philistines were. Between these, in the valley, were the steep rocks of hills mentioned, called Bozez shining, and Seneh thorn. 5. Over against Michmash—One crag was to the north in front of Michmash and the other south of it. Between Gibeath, Michmash and Gibeath were on opposite sides of a valley that extended nearly east and west about seven miles north of Jerusalem. The facts stated in verses 2-5 are thrown in as parenthetical to give details as to the conditions under which the assault about to be described was made.

6. These uncircumcised—Circumcision was a rite by which the Israelites were set apart as God's peculiar people. The Philistines were designated as uncircumcised, since they were not the Lord's people. By this term the Israelites expressed their abhorrence of the Philistines. It may be that the Lord will work for us—This expression did not imply a doubt; it signified simply that the object he aimed at was not in his own power, but it depended upon God, and that he expected success neither from his own strength nor his own merit.—J., F. & B. To save by many or by few—The expression just before this indicates that Jonathan believed in God's ability to give success and that his power might be exercised on this occasion. He expressed his faith clearly. He had a conviction that God would give the victory that moved him to go forward trusting in him. 7. I am with thee.—Jonathan's armor bearer had confidence in his master and also in God. He did not hesitate to go with him, nor did he attempt to turn him from his purpose.

8. We will discover ourselves unto them—They would go to the garrison of the Philistines and would make themselves known to them. 9. If they say thus unto us—Jonathan had no doubt prayed before for guidance, and now he proposed a test by which it would be clearly indicated what course he should pursue in the matter. 10. The Lord hath delivered them into our hand—This statement shows how implicitly Jonathan depended upon the Lord's direction and aid. A sign unto us—Our action will depend upon the words received from the Philistines. They will be the unconscious bearers of a message from God. 11. The Hebrews come from the Philistines understood the weakness of Israel at that time, and believed they were hiding in the numerous caverns of the locality. They could not have known for what purpose Jonathan and his armor-bearer had come forth. 12. Answered—The two had not addressed the Philistines, but their presence called for their attention. Come up to us—with this invitation Jonathan and his armor-bearer should do and what the Lord would do for them. We will show you a thing—These words may have been spoken in contempt or derision. Dr. Clarke thinks the Philistines desired to show the men the strength of their defenses.

11. A great victory (vs. 12-20). 12.—Climbed upon immediately to the east of the village of Michmash exists a natural fortress, still called the fort by the peasantry. It is a ridge rising in three rounded knolls above a perpendicular crag, ending in a narrow tongue to the east with cliffs below. Consider an advance guard of the Philistines may have held this position, and this crag may have been the one Jonathan and his armor-bearer ascended. They fell before Jonathan—Twenty men fell before Jonathan and his armor-bearer in a space equal to one side of a square containing an acre. 14, 15. Great fear fell upon the Philistines because of this successful attack and the terror was increased by the quaking of the earth. 16-23. Saul was within sight of the camp of the Philistines and saw what was being done there. He caused his camp to be searched to determine who of his men were missing. His little army joined in the battle, and those who were hiding in Ephraim came out also to help their brethren. There were Hebrews in the camp of the Philistines, who probably were slaves. These turned against their masters and the victory was great. 111. Saul's unwise demand (vs. 24-46).

Saul was much moved by the victory which was being achieved over the Philistines, and rashly decreed that no man should taste food that day. He did not consider that his men would be better fitted to pursue the enemy if they should be strengthened by taking food. There was woodland then in that country and many wild bees. Honey was produced in large quantities. Jonathan was ignorant of his father's decree and ate some honey. It was learned later what Jonathan had done and Saul was determined to have him slain in accordance with his decree, but the people interfered and saved Jonathan from death.

Questions—What was the condition of the Israelites in their relation to the Philistines at this time? Where were the two armies? What did Jonathan propose to his armor-bearer that they should do? What test did Jonathan make to learn what he should do? Describe the victory gained by Israel over the Philistines. What mistake did Saul make? How was his unwise purpose changed?

PRACTICAL SURVEY.

Topic—Inspired leadership. I. Revealed God's power to Israel. II. Revealed Saul's true character. III. Revealed God's power to Israel. This lesson shows what great results may attend individual effort. In Israel's extremity, under a most noble inspiration, help came through the courageous enterprise of Jonathan, who with his body-guard opened a campaign which overcame the enemies of Israel. The approach to the Philistine garrison would have been pronounced impassable by a less decisive and less courageous mind. Jonathan believed that it was the height of wisdom to give God the opportunity to reveal His mighty arm. His thought was of the promises and purposes of God concerning Israel. It was not his own project that was to be carried out, but the advancement of God's cause. There was a profoundly religious spirit controlling the impulse which led Jonathan to act. He believed that God's help was not dependent on the extent or the degree of the means by which it is realized, and that His power is absolute. The inspiration of faith vindicated itself and the noble self-devotion that had plunged into this otherwise desperate enterprise, led to a triumph more speedy and complete than even Jonathan may have contemplated. He was the hero of the scene. Saul had no thought of making an attack on the Philistines at that time. His recent transgression was now bearing some bitter fruit. His comparative inactivity and helplessness. When the Israelites, who had hidden in caves, saw that the army of the Philistines had met disaster, they helped on the victory. The faith of Jonathan had a glorious reward.

II. Revealed Saul's true character. It was a lack of understanding with Saul on the settlement of the kingdom that he might rely on the guidance of God. Samuel's exhortations and instructions emphasized the same, but Saul began to disregard God's will in his public acts and was now beginning to reap the penalty. Fear of the threatening dangers had seized on his heart; then impatience prevented him from waiting the time appointed by Samuel for sacrifice; then doubt of the trustworthiness of the divine promise came in. All this drove Saul to the purpose of helping himself, which dissipated more and more his trust in God. It was the root of unbelief from which all this sprang. Here began the unsteadiness and passionate character of Saul's inner life. He was indeed a fulfilling Samuel's predictions. In accordance with his pretext that he must seek the Lord's face before going to battle, Saul sought to set forth proofs of his piety, and godliness, such as calling for the ark of God, showing a great zeal against those who transgressed the law in their building of an altar to the Lord, in asking God concerning further military undertakings and in swearing by the Lord to punish the concealed sin of the people in asking him to decide where the sin was. Saul censured and checked the people, but not himself. It was his selfish motive that determined such conduct. He appeared more deeply affected by the neglect of some outward and formal duty than by the indulgence within himself of a wrong and impious mind. In the exercise of that self-will he imposed on the people an obligation, with a penalty attached, a most presumptuous thing when no direct command of God would be infringed if the people failed to conform to his will. If anything could have brought Saul to a sense of his error, it would have been the discovery that his rash decree and oath had implicated his own son, and made him consider Jonathan's case on its merits regardless of his own reputation. The regard put upon Jonathan in his charge against the Philistines was evidence to all but the obstinate king that God worked with him. A temporary revolution saved Jonathan. The people, wiser than their king, rescued the well-beloved Jonathan. What Saul deemed a capital offense, reason and justice declared an unseasonable transgression of an unjust decree. The remembrance of the penalty was just. Detroit, resolute, successful.—T. R. A.

III. A great victory (vs. 12-20). 12.—Climbed upon immediately to the east of the village of Michmash exists a natural fortress, still called the fort by the peasantry. It is a ridge rising in three rounded knolls above a perpendicular crag, ending in a narrow tongue to the east with cliffs below. Consider an advance guard of the Philistines may have held this position, and this crag may have been the one Jonathan and his armor-bearer ascended. They fell before Jonathan—Twenty men fell before Jonathan and his armor-bearer in a space equal to one side of a square containing an acre. 14, 15. Great fear fell upon the Philistines because of this successful attack and the terror was increased by the quaking of the earth. 16-23. Saul was within sight of the camp of the Philistines and saw what was being done there. He caused his camp to be searched to determine who of his men were missing. His little army joined in the battle, and those who were hiding in Ephraim came out also to help their brethren. There were Hebrews in the camp of the Philistines, who probably were slaves. These turned against their masters and the victory was great. 111. Saul's unwise demand (vs. 24-46).

Canal Guard Who Shot Comrade is Sentenced. St. Catharines, Despatch—Fifteen years in Kingston Penitentiary was the sentence imposed this morning on Frank Hartley, found guilty last night of manslaughter, in slaying on Oct. 7, 1907, Private Theodore Burgess, of the 1st Sutherland. In delivering sentence, said the jury might easily, on the evidence, have brought in a verdict of murder. "It has been said," remarked His Lordship, "that it has been the custom of soldiers to point their rifles at each other in a joking way. Just here I may state it is a practice which should be frowned down by military authorities. It is foolish, and against the law." To Hartley he said he might easily in the circumstances sentence him to life imprisonment, but would award a more lenient penalty. Hartley took the sentence coolly, and had nothing to say. Prof. Iyongaga, of Japan, thanks the European war will end aristocratic rule.



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FARM GARDEN

HANDLING DAIRY CATTLE.

Dairying can be made a profitable industry, and it can be the source of failure. We need dairying to conserve our soil, to better utilize our labor throughout the year, to turn into profit our low-priced forage crops, and to provide a sure and steady cash income. Success in dairying depends not only on the cost of feed and the price received for the product, but also on the individuality of the man and of the cows. To be profitable the cow should produce as a daily average for ten months 2 1/2 to three gallons of milk, testing 4 to 5 per cent. fat. Three gallons of 4 per cent. milk means one pound of butter fat per day. This should bring an average price throughout the year of 28 cents, or \$84 for 300 days. In addition to this she will produce skim-milk worth about a third as much as the butter fat, for feeding to calves, pigs and chickens. There is also the value of the manure, and the calf, which should total \$25 or more per year.

The most profitable ration to feed such a cow would consist of pasture, silage, alfalfa and a carrying amount of mixed grain, consisting of bran, cottonseed meal, and corn, milk or kaffir. Silage is a very valuable feed when pasture is short. In fact, many dairymen consider it indispensable. If it is not available, its place will have to be taken by green soiling crops, supplemented in the winter by some such feed as dried beet pulp. Such feeding will mean a total cost of \$69 per year, divided about equally between grain and roughage. Thus it will be seen that, if \$5 per month is to be paid on the purchase price of the cow, what is left of the cream check will scarcely pay for the feed that must be bought, and the farmer must look to the profit from the production of each cow and disarding the poor ones. Many a dairy herd would yield a larger net profit if a third, or in some cases, a half, were sold for butcher stock.

Aside from cows, the necessary material equipment will consist of a separator, if the cream is to be sold or churned, the ordinary utensils for handling the milk, and a shelter for the cows, a good roof with three sides enclosed, is sufficient in our climate. A silo and a good sanitary floor in the milking stable are also essential to the best results. Cows do not, as a general thing, eat more food than they can properly digest. The more food consumed the more milk produced. The greater the amount of protein in the ration, the larger the milk flow. The great secret of high dairy production is the cow with an enormous capacity for assimilating food. The body of the cow is warmed by the food it consumes. If through exposure to cold or rain, the temperature of the body is reduced, more food will be needed to keep up the inside warmth. If this demand is very great, there will be little or none left for milk production. Cottonseed meal fed to dairy cows produces hard butterfat. Linsed meal and gluten produce soft butterfat. Carrots have a feeding value far beyond the nutrient they contain. They aid digestion. Experiments made some years ago show that when whole corn was fed to cows, 22 per cent. was unassimilated; when fed to heifers, 10 per cent., and when fed to calves, 6 per cent. Chemical analysis showed no change in composition of the unassimilated parts, consequently it is safe to assume that the animal receives no benefit from grain that passes through the digestive tract unaltered. According to feeding trials with dairy cows, alfalfa can be made to take the place of at least one-half of the grain usually fed. As the nutrients can be produced much more cheaply with alfalfa than with grain, the cost of milk may be considerably reduced by its use.

FARM NEWS AND VIEWS.

A good supply of salt and ashes for hogs should not be neglected. If wood ashes are available, the hogs should have all they will eat. When not convenient to feed ashes, charcoal is a good substitute, and even soft coal will be eaten for want of something better. Hogs are never injured by eating all the ashes they want, but it is not safe to give large quantities of salt to animals not accustomed to it. The salt and ashes mixture should be kept in a low box under cover, where it will be protected from rain, and it should consist of about two quarts salt for each bushel of ashes. Many feeders add a few shovels of coppers to the mixture. Free access by such a mixture will preserve the health of the hogs, and sows which have had an abundance of such food rarely eat their young. If one horse will pull and the other will not, it is advised to hitch the

balky horse's inside trace across the tongue to the inner end of the other horse's single-tree, then hitch the horse's inside trace across tongue to inner end of balker's single-tree. The balky horse will be forced to pull.

Not infrequently valuable trees are killed or seriously injured by using them for anchors, for guy wires, or for clothesline posts. If a tree is to be used for this purpose only temporarily, several blocks of inch board two inches wide should be placed around the trees, over which the wire may pass. This method is not safe for more than two or three years. A better way is to screw a large screw hook into the side of the tree, to which the wire may be attached, or for heavy anchorage a bob with a hook at one end may be put through the tree wire attached to this.

By selecting a good herd bull, of some particular breed and giving careful attention to the raising of calves, one can start with common-grade cattle and in a few years time build up a good herd of either beef or dairy type, whichever is aimed at. It has been asserted by some dairymen that the feeding of crushed oats to cows will improve the flavor of milk. To ascertain the correctness of this theory a series of experiments was made by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture at the experimental dairy farm at Beltsville, Md. Six cows were used in the experiment; three were fed a grain ration of cornmeal, bran and cottonseed meal; the other three were fed a grain mixture of five parts crushed oats and one part cottonseed meal. A number of samples of milk from the cows fed these rations were submitted to various persons in the dairy division and they were asked to indicate their preference. In all 50 opinions were passed on various samples. Of these 15 showed a preference for the milk from cows fed on crushed oats, 25 preferred that from the bran and corn rations, while 9 expressed no choice. The results show that in these rations not only was there no marked difference in favor of the crushed oats as a feed to improve flavor, but, if anything, the ration containing bran and corn was more successful in producing a fine-flavored milk.

CARDINAL FACTS

Everybody can do a little. Every man should do what he can. Every woman should do what she can. Improved production means increased production. Two people's ideas may be an improvement on those of one. Canada's future depends upon our actions of to-day. In serving the Empire we are serving ourselves. Markets are not created, won and held in a day. Now is the time to prove ourselves the granary of the Empire.

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We have the soil, we have the resources, we must have the energy to use them to the greatest advantage. As we acquit ourselves at this crisis, so will be our prosperity and price in the years to come.

Europe engaged in war the larger sections decimated, other countries, and especially those forming the British Empire, will have to make up huge deficiencies, both in foodstuffs and raw material.

Great Britain imported 51,758,915 bushels of wheat from Canada in 1913. She imported 80,013,375 bushels from the United States. She also imported 12,789,969 bushels from Russia and Central Europe.

Great Britain imported 24,148,833 bushels of barley in 1913 from Russia, Roumania, Turkey, Germany and Austria. From Canada she took 5,977,533 bushels, or less than a fourth.

Great Britain took 22,454,653 bushels of oats from Germany, Russia and Roumania in 1913, of which one-half was from her bitterest and most savage enemy of to-day.

Great Britain imported 185,125,000 bushels of wheat from August 1, 1912, to July 31, 1913. Russia exported 163,127,000 bushels and Roumania 46,543,600 bushels in the same time. How far is Canada going to help to make up the deficiency?

Great Britain imported from August 1, 1913 to July 31, 1914, 54,207,600 bushels of oats. Russia exported 46,543,600 bushels, Germany 25,077,000, and Roumania 17,195,099 bushels. Who is going to make up this deficiency of 77,000,000 bushels?

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO MARKETS.

FARMERS' MARKET. Eggs, new-laid, dozen... 0.30 0.32 Butter, dairy... 0.21 0.22 Chickens, dressed, lb... 0.20 0.22 Ducks, dressed, lb... 0.20 0.22 Turkeys, dressed, lb... 0.20 0.22 Geese, dressed, lb... 0.15 0.18 Apples, Can., bbl... 0.15 0.18 Potatoes, Can., bag... 0.65 0.75 Cabbage, crate... 1.10 1.15 Celery, dozen... 1.00 1.00 Cranberries, bbl... 5.50 6.00 Onions, bushel... 1.25 0.60 Do., Spanish, box... 1.50 0.60

SUGAR MARKET.

Current quotations of sugars are as follows: Extra granulated, Redpath's... 58.50 Do., 20-lb. bags... 58.50 Do., St. Lawrence... 58.50 Do., 20-lb. bags... 58.50 St. Lawrence, No. 1 yellow... 58.50 Acacia... 58.50 Do., No. 1 yellow... 58.50 Dominion crystals... 58.50 Do., in 20-lb. bags... 58.50

WHOLESALE MEATS.

Wholesale meats are quoting as follows: Beef, forequarters, cwt... \$9.00 \$10.00 Do., hindquarters... 11.00 12.00 Carcasses, choice... 11.00 12.00 Do., medium... 9.00 10.00 Do., common... 8.00 9.00 Veals, common, cwt... 12.50 13.00 Do., prime... 14.00 15.00 Mutton... 10.00 11.00 Do., light... 10.00 11.00 Lams, Spring... 10.00 11.00 Hogs, light... 8.00 9.00 Do., heavy... 8.50 9.50

LIVE STOCK.

Receipts were heavy, and not of the best quality, but everything was cleaned up early. Cows were a little poorer quality, were steady, as were also calves. Sheep scarce and higher. Receipts, 933 cattle; 206 calves; 2,085 hogs; 89 sheep. Cows, choice... 7.50 to 7.75 do., do., medium... 6.75 to 6.85 do., do., common... 5.25 to 5.25 Butcher cows, choice... 5.25 to 5.25 do., do., medium... 4.00 to 4.25 do., do., canners... 4.00 to 4.25 do., do., bulls... 3.50 to 3.50 Feeding steers... 6.00 to 6.25 Stockers, choice... 5.75 to 5.75 do., light... 5.00 to 5.00 Milkers, choice, each... 6.50 to 6.50 Springers... 5.00 to 5.00 Sheep, choice... 5.00 to 5.00 Bucks and culms... 5.25 to 5.00 Hogs, fed and watered... 8.00 Hogs, f. o. b... 7.50 Calves... 7.50 to 10.50

OTHER MARKETS.

WINNIPEG GRAIN OPTIONS.

Wheat— Open High Low Close May... 1.40 1.52 1.48 1.50 July... 1.45 1.58 1.54 1.56 Oct... 1.45 1.62 1.58 1.60

MINNEAPOLIS GRAIN MARKET.

Minneapolis—Wheat—No. 1 hard... 1.45 No. 2 Northern... 1.41 No. 3 Northern... 1.38 No. 4 Northern... 1.35 No. 5 Northern... 1.32 No. 6 Northern... 1.29 No. 7 Northern... 1.26 No. 8 Northern... 1.23 No. 9 Northern... 1.20 No. 10 Northern... 1.17 No. 11 Northern... 1.14 No. 12 Northern... 1.11

DULUTH GRAIN MARKET.

Duluth—Wheat—No. 1 hard... 1.45 No. 2 Northern... 1.41 No. 3 Northern... 1.38 No. 4 Northern... 1.35 No. 5 Northern... 1.32 No. 6 Northern... 1.29 No. 7 Northern... 1.26 No. 8 Northern... 1.23 No. 9 Northern... 1.20 No. 10 Northern... 1.17 No. 11 Northern... 1.14 No. 12 Northern... 1.11

GLASGOW CATTLE MARKET.

Glasgow—Wattson and Partners report Scotch steers at 12 to 14, 15 to 17, 18 to 20, 21 to 24 to be bulls 15 to 16 1/2.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK.

Cattle, receipts 1,000. Market weak. Steers, native... 2.75 to 2.75 Western steers... 2.75 to 2.75 Calves and heifers... 2.75 to 2.75 Hogs, receipts 25,000. Market slow. Light... 6.00 to 6.00 Mixed... 6.00 to 6.00 Heavy... 6.00 to 6.00 Pigs... 6.00 to 6.00 Sheep, receipts 1,000. Market slow. Native... 1.00 to 1.00 Yearlings... 1.00 to 1.00 Lambs... 1.00 to 1.00

BUFFALO LIVE STOCK.

East Buffalo, Despatch—Cattle receipts 75 today. Veals, receipts 30; slow; \$5.00 to \$10.00. Hogs, receipts 1,000; active; heavy \$7.25 to \$7.50; mixed \$7.00 to \$7.50; porkers \$7.50 to \$8.00; pigs \$7.00 to \$7.50. Sheep and lambs, receipts 600; active; lambs \$6.50 to \$10.00; yearlings \$8.00 to \$9.25; ewes \$8.00 to \$9.25; mixed \$7.50 to \$7.75.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Receipts: cattle 900; cows and springers 70; calves 600; sheep and lambs 150; hogs 500. Price beefs 7 1/2 to 8; medium 6 to 7 1/4; common 4 3/4 to 5 3/4. Cows \$40 to \$50 each; springers \$20 to \$25 each. Calves 5 to 9. Sheep about 4-2. Lambs 4-2. Hogs 8-4.