

Lesson III.

DAVID'S KINDNESS TO JONATHAN'S SON October 18, 1908

2 Samuel, ch. 9. Commit to memory v. 7. Read 2 Samuel 16 : 1-4 ; 19 ; 24-30.

GOLDEN TEXT—And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another.—Ephesians 4 : 32.

1 And Da'vid said, Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake ?

2 And *there was* of the house of Saul a servant whose name was Zi'ba. 1 And when they had called him unto Da'vid, 2 the king said unto him, *Art thou Zi'ba ?* And he said, Thy servant *is he*.

3 And the king said, *Is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may shew the kindness of God unto him ?* And Zi'ba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, *which is lame on his feet*.

4 And the king said unto him, *Where is he ?* And Zi'ba said unto the king, Behold, he *is* in the house of Ma'chir, the son of Am'miel, in Lo'-debar.

5 Then king Da'vid sent, and fetched him out of the house of Ma'chir, the son of Am'miel, from Lo'-debar.

6 3 Now when Mephib'osheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, 4 was come unto Da'vid, 5 he fell on his face, and 6 did reverence. And Da'vid said, Mephib'osheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant !

7 And Da'vid said unto him, Fear not : for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy

Revised Version—and they called ; 2 and ; 3 And Mephibosheth ; 4 came ; 5 and fell ; 6 did obeisance ; 7 Omit six words ; 8 have I given unto thy master's son ; 9 And thou shalt till the land for him, thou, and 10 Omit six words ; 11 bread ; 12 commandeth ; 13 Mica ; 14 he.

LESSON PLAN

- I. Jonathan Remembered, 1-3.
- II. Mephibosheth Found, 4-6.
- III. Mephibosheth Provided For, 7-13.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I.B.R. Association)

M.—David's kindness to Jonathan's son, 2 Sam. 9 1-13. T.—The friendship, 1 Sam. 20 : 11-23. W.—Mephibosheth's welcome, 2 Sam. 19 : 24-30. Th.—"Unto Me", Matt. 25 : 31-40. F.—Be merciful ! Luke 6 : 31-38. S.—Happy memory, Job 29 : 1-16. S.—Great love, Eph. 3 : 8-19.

Shorter Catechism—*Quest.* 103. *What do we pray for in the third petition ?* A. In the third petition

father ; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

8 And he 6 bowed himself, and said, What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am ?

9 Then the king called to Zi'ba, Saul's servant, and said unto him, 7 I have given unto thy master's son all that pertained to Saul and to all his house.

10 8 Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, 10 shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits, that thy master's son may have 11 food to eat : but Mephib'osheth thy master's son shall eat bread always at my table. Now Zi'ba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

11 Then said Zi'ba unto the king, According to all that my lord the king 12 hath commanded his servant, so shall thy servant do. As for Mephib'osheth, *said the king*, he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's sons.

12 And Mephib'osheth had a young son, whose name was 13 Mi'cha. And all that dwell in the house of Zi'ba were servants unto Mephib'osheth.

13 So Mephib'osheth dwelt in Jeru'salem : for he did eat continually at the king's table ; and 14 was lame on both his feet.

(which is, *Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven*) we pray, That God, by his grace, would make us able and willing to know, obey, and submit to his will in all things, as the angels do in heaven.

The Question on Missions—3. How do the young men spend their time ? Cultivating their food ; building houses, and making canoes ; hunting for nuts and fruits, and fishing ; working, at times, for the missionary or other white men. Their aspirations generally are not high.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, 320 (Supplemental Lesson) ; 129 ; 175 ; 118 (Ps. Sel.) ; 575 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY) ; 80.

Special Scripture Reading—Acts 3 : 1-10. (To be read responsively or in concert by the whole School.)

EXPOSITION

Time and Place—About B.C. 985 (Ussher, B.C. 1040) ; Jerusalem.

Connecting Links—Chapter 8 contains an account of David's wars with surrounding nations, while he was establishing his kingdom (see Geography Lesson).

I. Jonathan Remembered, 1-3.

V. 1. *David said . . . any . . . left of the house of Saul ?* Saul and three of his sons had fallen at Gilboa (1 Sam. 31 : 2) ; a fourth, Ish-bosheth, had been assassinated at Mahanaim (2 Sam. 4 : 5-7) ; the rest were scattered and lived in seclusion,—no doubt in terror of David. That there were still a number of the house of Saul is evident from ch. 21 : 1-9. *Shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake.* The king, who had composed the tender elegy to Saul and Jonathan (ch. 1 : 19-27) would fain show kindness to a scion of the fallen house. Had he not sworn unswerving friendship to

Jonathan (1 Sam. 20 : 14-17, 42) ? During his years of wandering, before he became king, David had had little opportunity of seeking out the family of his old friend.

Vs. 2, 3. *A servant . . . Ziba.* This dependent had evidently kept in touch with the fallen house. *Any . . . of Saul . . . shew the kindness of God unto him ;* "kindness or mercy such as God shows to men, unfeeling, unsought, unlimited". (Cambridge Bible.) In God's kindness to himself David found the measure of the kindness he should show to the son of his friend (compare Luke 6 : 36). *A son (Mephibosheth, v. 6) . . . lame on his feet.* While he was a child he had been let fall by his nurse in the excitement and terror caused by the news of his father Jonathan's death, ch. 4 : 4.

II. Mephibosheth Found, 4-6.

V. 4. *Where is he ?* Ziba seems to have