

represented a large and powerful minority, probably from the haughty and turbulent tribe of Ephraim, who resented the appointment of a king from the insignificant Benjamites. **De-spised him.** Looked upon him with contempt. **Brought him no presents.** The customary gift, as the token of homage and acknowledgment of a higher authority over the possessions and service of the subject. **He held his peace.** Literally, "he was as being deaf." He took no notice of the malcontents, not from scorn, but from prudence, passing by the slight, that he might win the allegiance of the scorners. It is evident that there was a wide-spread disaffection, a reaction from the enthusiasm of the assembly, that seriously threatened the stability of the new government.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king. 1 Sam. 10. 24.

OUTLINE.

1. The King Rejected, v. 17-19.
2. A King Sought, v. 20-22.
3. A King Found, v. 23-27.

HOME READINGS.

- M. Saul chosen king. 1 Sam. 10. 17-27.
 T. Saul meeting Samuel. 1 Sam. 9. 15-27.
 W. Saul anointed king. 1 Sam. 10. 1-11.
 Th. The throne of kings. Prov. 16. 1-15.
 F. Gifts to the king. Matt. 2. 1-11.
 S. The honour of the king. Psa. 21. 1-13.
 S. The King of glory. Psa. 24. 1-10.

Time —1095 B.C.

Place.—Mizpeh, in the tribe of Benjamin.

Connecting Links.—1. God's command to Samuel to institute the kingdom. 1 Sam. 8. 22. 2. Samuel's meeting with Saul. 1 Sam. 9. 1-27. 3. The anointing of Saul. 1 Sam. 10. 1-16.

Explanations.—*Samuel called the people*—This was after Saul had been privately chosen and anointed. *Unto the Lord*—To meet the Lord, who was the nation's head. *Thus saith the Lord*—God declared through Samuel how he had called, saved, and kept the people, and how they, on the other hand, had constantly shown themselves rebellious. *Ye have this day*—The day when a king was to take God's place before the people. *Nay, but set a king*—Their conduct had been ungrateful and disobedient. *Present yourselves*—In the person of the heads of the tribes and their families. *All the tribes*—Twelve in all, represented by their princes. *Benjamin was taken*—The lot fell on Benjamin, the smallest of all the tribes. How it was taken we do not know. *The tribe* was divided into its families, and among these that of *Matri* was taken by lot. The families were divided into households, and that of *Kish* was taken, and in the household of *Kish* Saul was taken by name. *Could not be found*—He was at that time modest and without ambition to rule. *Inquired... further*—Through the high-priest. *If the man should yet come thither*—This may mean, "If another man should come;" if they should choose again, as the man could not be found. *Among the stuff*—The baggage. *Higher than any*—He had a tall, noble figure, such as the people

desired in their king. *The Lord hath chosen*—God had chosen such a man as the people would have selected. *God save the king*—Rather, "Let the king live!" *The manner of the kingdom*—Its rules and requirements. *Laid it up*—Perhaps in the tabernacle. *Saul... went home*—Not yet assuming the state of a king. *A band of men*—Voluntary followers. *God had touched*—Who were led by the influence of God's Spirit. *Children of Belial*—An expression meaning "wicked people." *No presents*—Such as were given to a king. *Held his peace*—Did nothing to punish the rebellious in spirit.

LESSON HYMNS.

No. 144, *New D. H.*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

No. 2, *New D. H.*

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

No. 1, *Hymn Book.*

C. M.

O for a thousand tongues to sing
 My great Redeemer's praise,
 The glories of my God and King,
 The triumphs of his grace.

Jesus! the Name that charms our fears,
 That bids our sorrows cease;
 'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
 'Tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
 He sets the prisoner free;
 His blood can make the foulest clean,
 His blood availed for me.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. **The King Rejected**, v. 17-19. Who was the true King of Israel? How had God shown himself the people's King? Who are God's people now? 1 Pet. 2, 9, 10. What are the privileges in God's kingdom? Rom. 8. 17. How had the Israelites rejected God as their King? How may we reject God as they did?

2. **A King Sought**, v. 20-22. What did Samuel command the people to do? What was then done? How was the king chosen? Who was the one chosen as king? Can you tell what had happened to him before this? [See CONNECTING LINKS]. Why could he not be found? Did he know that he was to be the king? chap. 10. 1. What spirit did Saul show on this occasion?

3. **A King Found**, v. 23-27. Where was Saul found, and how? What was his appearance? What did Samuel say of him? How was he received by the people? [GOLDEN TEXT]. What did Samuel do for the government of the new kingdom? Where did Saul go, and who went with him? How did some show their contempt? How did the new king show his wisdom?

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where does this lesson show—

1. That God is his people's King?
2. That men are often ungrateful to God?
3. That rulers are by God's appointment?

The Lesson Catechism.—(For the entire school). 1. Who was the first king of Israel?