

Lesson IV.

DAVID AND GOLIATH

April 25, 1915

BETWEEN THE LESSONS—Ch. 16 : 14-23 tells how David, by his music, drove an evil spirit out of Saul, GOLDEN TEXT—If God is for us, who is against us?—Romans 8 : 31 (Rev. Ver.).

Memorize v. 45.

THE LESSON PASSAGE—1 Samuel 17 : 38-51. Study 1 Samuel 17 : 1-54.

38 And Saul armed Da'vid with his armour, and he put an helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed him with a coat of mail.

39 And Da'vid girded his sword upon his armour, and he assayed to go; for he had not proved it. And Da'vid said unto Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them. And Da'vid put them off him.

40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

41 And the Philistine came on and drew near unto Da'vid; and the man that bare the shield went before him.

42 And when the Philistine looked about, and saw Da'vid, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance.

43 And the Philistine said unto Da'vid, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed Da'vid by his gods.

44 And the Philistine said to Da'vid, Come to me, and I will give thee flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.

45 Then said Da'vid to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord

Revised Version—1 clad; 2 apparel; 3 head, and he clad him; 4 the; 5 his; 6 withal of; 7 javelin; 8 which; 9 off; 10 and that; 11 may know; 12 hand; 13 hastened; 14 and the stone sank; 15 Then David; 16 over the; 17 that their.

of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

46 This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

47 And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands.

48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet Da'vid, that Da'vid hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

49 And Da'vid put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

50 So Da'vid prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of Da'vid.

51 Therefore Da'vid ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

*HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS

M.—David and Goliath, 1 Sam. 17 : 1-11.

T.—David and Goliath, 1 Sam. 17 : 12-25.

W.—David and Goliath, 1 Sam. 17 : 26-37.

Th.—David and Goliath, 1 Sam. 17 : 38-47.

F.—David and Goliath, 1 Sam. 17 : 48-54.

S.—Our divine helper, Ps. 140 : 1-8.

Sunday—The Christian's armor, Eph. 6 : 10-17.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED



DAVID

We now see David at the camp of Israel situated on one slope of a valley, facing an invading army of the Philistines on the opposite slope. Goliath, a gigantic Philistine warrior, challenged, day after day, the host of Israel to send forth one of their number to meet him in single combat, and David accepted the challenge. Vs. 1-37.

I. DAVID'S WEAPONS.—38, 39. Saul clad David with his apparel (Rev. Ver.). A garment worn by warriors or officials may be meant, perhaps a special military dress to be worn with armor. Helmet of brass; really

of bronze, an alloy of copper and tin, our brass, an alloy of copper and zinc, being then unknown. Coat of mail; made of overlapping metal plates, like the scales of a fish, and reaching to the knees or lower. Sword; probably a short, straight sword, 2½ or 3 feet long and double-edged. David... assayed to go; tried unsuccessfully to walk, weighed down by the heavy armor. Had not proved it; had not tried

wearing such heavy armor and did not know, therefore, how it would hinder him. Put them off; showing both common sense in not using armor and weapons to which his foe was more accustomed than he and his trust in God as able to give him the victory with the simplest of weapons.

40. Staff; a heavy club, the Eastern shepherd's chief weapon of attack and defence, still used effectively by the desert tribes. Five smooth stones; "smooth" (waterworn) so as to carry straight, "five," so as to have some in reserve, if one should fail. Out of the brook; the stream bed at the bottom of the valley. Shepherd's bag... even... a scrip; made of the whole skin of a kid, the forelegs being tied together to form a handle and used to carry the shepherd's food. His sling; in all ages the favorite weapon of Syrian shepherds.

II. DAVID'S FOE.—41-47. Philistine... drew near; "a stalking mountain (he was 9 feet, 9 inches in height, v. 4) overlaid with brass and iron." Man (armorbearer)... bare the shield; large enough to cover the giant's whole body. Looked about... saw David; who seems to have crossed the valley and crept close up to Goliath unobserved. Disdained him; scorned him as a foe utterly insignificant. Am I a dog; a term of the utmost contempt in all the