

Now on the day after Israel's victory over the Philistines, Saul was so troubled that he sat raving and brandishing his spear like a madman. And when David by his music tried as usual to comfort him, Saul suddenly jumped up and, with angry words, threw his spear at David, and would have killed him had he not twice jumped out of his way.

After this, because it was clear that God was with the young shepherd rather than with himself, Saul was afraid of David and determined to get rid of him. And this was his plan :

He made David captain over a thousand fighting men, and sent him away with them, hoping that soon he would be killed in battle.

But because David behaved himself wisely wherever he went, and the Lord was with him, he made many friends, so that from north to south throughout all Israel the people loved David, while Saul grew more and more afraid of him.

Questions on the Lesson

1. How were Saul and his armies honored as they returned from battle? 2. What was sung of David? 3. Why was Saul displeased? 4. How did David behave? 5. How was he rewarded for his bravery? 6. What trouble came upon Saul? 7. How did David try to soothe him? 8. What happened the day after the battle? 9. How many times did Saul try to kill David? 10. What plan did he next try to get rid of him? 11. Was he successful? 12. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Story

Sometimes even boys and girls are troubled by an unquiet mind.

"When I go to bed," said little Helen, "I see things in the dark and think about such scary things that it keeps me awake."

"If," asked the mother, "you should see a flock of croaking ravens and a flock of pure white, cooing doves coming towards you, which would you hold out your hands to?"

"The doves, of course," said Helen.

"Try this with the thoughts, that are like flying birds at night," said the mother. "Don't give room in your mind to those you call scary, but coax the white doves of sweet and happy thoughts to come in and stay till you go to sleep."

And sure enough Helen found mother's plan a good one.

Lesson Hymn

A safe stronghold our God is still,
A trusty shield and weapon ;
By His right arm He surely will
Free from all ills that happen. Amen.
—Hymn 259, Book of Praise

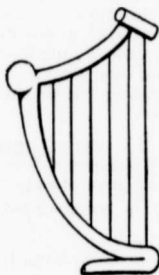
The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—41. What are some of the wonderful works which Jesus did? He stilled the stormy winds, walked upon the water, fed the hungry, healed the sick, and brought the dead to life.

SHORTER CATECHISM—90. *How is the word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?* A. That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereto with diligence, preparation, and prayer; receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practise it in our lives.

SOMETHING TO DRAW

You have seen the birds after the rain, when the sky is clear again and the sun shining brightly, singing with all their



might for very gladness. Surely David must have felt like taking up his harp and singing, as he played upon it, for joy that God had saved him from the storm of Saul's anger! We, too, should rejoice when we remember that the same God is all the time protecting us.

**I Have Learned To-day
THAT GOD WILL PROTECT ME**