

of ripening grain almost ready for the reapers.

And Samuel said, "I will now call upon the Lord, that He may send a great storm upon you and your crops, that you may know His power and feel how wickedly you have done in refusing Him as your King."

Suddenly, while Samuel was speaking, such a storm of lightning and wind and hail arose that the people were in terror of their lives, and they trembled before the Lord and His servant Samuel. And the Israelites fell down before God's prophet and begged him to pray the Lord to have mercy upon them and not utterly destroy them for the evil they had done.

When Samuel saw their repentance, he said, "Fear not, you have indeed done wickedly, but God does not change. He will forgive you and be your friend, if you will now obey him with all your hearts. Because it has pleased the Lord to take you for His people, He will never leave you, if only you will keep yourselves from being drawn into the idol worship of the heathen about you."

So Samuel comforted the people and promised that, so long as God spared his life, he would pray for them and do all he could to help them follow what was right and good.

"Only remember what great things God has done for you," said the old prophet. "Love and follow him and it shall be well with you. But if you shall do wickedly, there is no help for you; both you and your king shall be destroyed."

Questions on the Lesson

1. Where did the Israelites meet to crown Saul king? 2. Why did they specially rejoice? 3. Who was Samuel? 4. How did he say the people should honor their king? 5. What warning did he give them both? 6. How did God punish the people for their sins? 7. How did the storm come? 8. What made it strange? 9. What did Samuel say to the frightened people? 10. How did he comfort them? 11. What promise did he make them? 12. What sin did he warn them against? 13. What did he say should happen if they did wrong?

Lesson Hymn

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my will, and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne. Amen.

—Hymn 238, Book of Praise

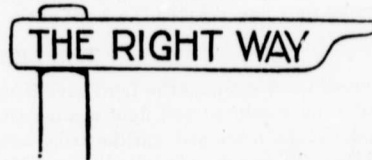
The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—36. How was Jesus Christ different from us? Jesus Christ was altogether without sin. **37.** What do you know of the childhood of Jesus? Jesus, when a child, loved and obeyed His parents, and pleased God in all things.

SHORTER CATECHISM—86. What is faith in Jesus Christ? A. Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel.

SOMETHING TO DRAW

Travellers are often glad to see a sign-post by the roadside showing them which direction to take. God has put a voice within



each of us to tell us what we ought to do. The name of this voice is conscience, and if we follow it we shall walk in the right way.

I Have Learned To-day
THAT GOD WANTS ME TO OBEY