

**A Boy's Mother.**

My mother, she's good to me!  
If I was good as I could be;  
I couldn't be as good—No, sir!  
Can't any boy be good as her!

She loves me when I'm glad or mad,  
She loves me when I'm good or bad,  
And what's the funnest thing, she  
says  
She loves me when she punishes!

I don't like her to punish me;  
That don't hurt, but it hurts to see  
Her cryin'; nen I cry; an' nen  
We both cry, an' be good again

She loves me when she cuts and sews  
My little cloak and Sunday clothes,  
An' when my pa comes home to tea,  
She loves him most as much as me!

She laughs, and tells him all I say!  
And grabs me up, and pats my head.  
An' I hug her, an' hug my pa,  
An' love him put' nigh much as ma.

**GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM**

"He believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness."

Our picture is one that might be seen to-day. But in most respects it well portrays the period of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob. The spear standing upright shows the tent of the chief. The camels and horses and people gathered in the distance look now as they did many hundreds of years ago. The chief sits at the opening of his tent, and there receives new-comers, or dispenses hospitality, or drives sharp bargains.

**LESSON NOTES.****FIRST QUARTER.**

B.C. 1898.] LESSON VI. [Feb. 11.

**GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM.**

Gen. 17. 1-9. Memory verses, 7, 8.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

He believeth in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness.—Gen. 15. 6.

**OUTLINE.**

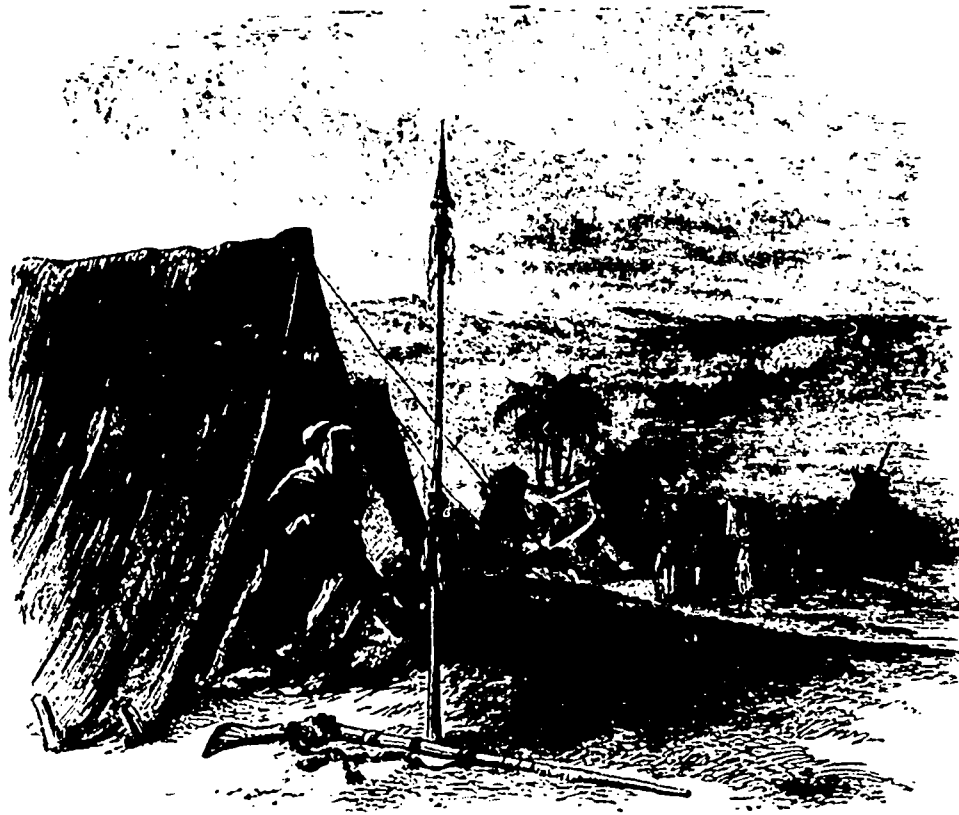
1. A New Covenant, v. 1, 2.
2. A New Name, v. 3-5.
3. A New Promise, v. 6-9.

**CONNECTING LINKS.**

1. Abram's visit to Egypt and attempted deceit concerning his wife (Gen. 12. 10-19). 2. His dismissal from the country (Gen. 12. 20). 3. Lot's departure from Abram and settlement near Sodom (Gen. 13. 1-13). 4. God's promise to give Canaan to Abram (Gen. 13. 14-18). 5. The conquest of Chedorlaomer (Gen. 14. 1-7). 6. Rebellion of the five kings of the Jordan valley (Gen. 14. 4). 7. Battle of the Vale of Siddim, and capture of Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 14. 5-11). 8. Abram and Melchizedek (Gen. 14. 12-24). 9. God's covenant with Abram (Gen. 15. 1-21). 10. The painful story of Hagar and Ishmael follows (Gen. 16). Then comes our lesson.

**EXPLANATIONS.**

"Ninety years old and nine"—Thirteen years after the birth of Ishmael. "The Lord appeared to Abram"—Lest he should regard Ishmael's birth as the complete fulfilment of the promise. "I am the Almighty God"—Our Bible does not give the full sense of this. It is the announcement of God's name made at a time when the names of all persons were deeply indicative of their character; so that this is in the profoundest sense a revelation of certain attributes of God. "The name here describes God as revealing himself violently in his might, distinguishing Jehovah, the God of salvation, from Elohim, the God who creates nature so that it is, and supports it so that it may stand. This is the God who compels nature to do what is contrary to itself, who subjects it so as to bow and minister to grace; who possesses the power to realize his promises."—Whitclaw. "Walk before me"—Set thyself to walk in my presence. "Be thou perfect"—Copy me closely in detail. "I will establish my covenant"—This means that the covenant already concluded is about to be carried to completion. "Abraham"—His name was altered to suit the enlargement of his character.



A CAMP IN THE DESERT.

**PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.**

What are we taught in this lesson about—

1. The power of God?
2. The love of God?
3. The mercy of God?

**THE LESSON CATECHISM.**

1. How did God introduce himself to Abram? "I am the Almighty God." 2. What did he command Abram to do? "Walk before me, and be thou perfect." 3. What did he pledge to make Abram if he was faithful? "A father of many nations." 4. To what did he change his name? "'To Abraham, which means 'Father-of-a-great-multitude.'" 5. What was said of Abraham? Golden Text: "He believed in the Lord," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The divine omnipotence.

**CATECHISM QUESTION.**

How was our Lord exalted in his resurrection?

Because his rising from the dead proved that he was the Son of God; that he had conquered death and had atoned for sin.

How was he exalted in the ascension?

He was taken up into heaven, there to receive honour and glory from all creatures; and thence send down the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**GEHAZI'S GOLD.**

"NAAMAN, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by

him the Lord had given deliverance unto Syria: He was also a mighty man in valour, but he was a leper. And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid, and she waited on Naaman's wife, and she said unto her mistress, 'Would God, my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.' And one went in and told his lord, saying, thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel." Therefore Naaman went to Elisha, the man of God, and was told to wash in the Jordan seven times. This Naaman did, "and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean." And he returned unto Elisha and would that he should take a gift in return for the blessing of healing he had received, but Elisha would receive nothing from him.

"But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, 'Behold my master hath spared Naaman this Syrian, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought: But as the Lord liveth, I will run after him, and take somewhat of him.' So Gehazi followed after Naaman." And he told Naaman that Elisha had sent him for some silver and changes of raiment for two young men who had just come from Ephraim to Elisha, his master. Then Naaman gave the silver and the changes of raiment to Gehazi. When Gehazi returned to his master, Elisha said, "Whence comest thou, Gehazi?" and he said, "Thy servant went no whither." (You see Gehazi had said what was false once and now without trouble he told a lie to his master). But Elisha said, "Went not my heart with thee, when the man turned again from his chariot to meet thee? . . . The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto thee and unto thy seed forever: And he went out from his presence a leper as white as snow."

**Popular Music Books.**

During the past six or eight months the two music books which, next to our own popular Canadian Hymnal and the old reliable Songs and Solos, have had the largest sale with us have been the following:

**THE LIFE LINE. . .**

A collection of Sacred Songs for the Master

BY

**A. F. Meyers**

Per copy, 20c.; per dozen, \$2.00

This book has had an enormous sale in the States. We have ourselves already sold more than two thousand copies.

**THE FINEST OF THE WHEAT**

**Chaplain McCabe's  
New Book**

Per copy, 35c.; per dozen, \$3.00

A sale of 436,000 copies is pretty fair evidence that this book pleases the people. It is a rousing collection of stirring songs for missionary and revival meetings and the Sunday-school.

**OTHER NEW BOOKS**

The Jewelled Crown. By Asa Hull. Each, 3c. per dozen, \$3.00.  
Bright Light. By S. W. Straub. Each, 3c. per dozen, \$3.00.  
Crown of Gold. By W. T. Gibbs and F. J. Davis. Each, 3c.; per dozen, \$3.00.  
Pearls and Diamonds. By J. F. Kinsey. Each, 25c.; per dozen, \$2.50.

Postage prepaid on single copies.  
Not prepaid at dozen rate.

**William Briggs,** Retail Book and  
Publishing House, Toronto  
C. W. COATES, Montreal, Que.  
S. F. HUMPHREYS, Halifax, N.S.



NAAMAN AND ELISHA.