

had belonged to David, with a rich and costly saddle and bridle.

The two armies met in a wood. Whiz! went the arrows. Clang! rang the swords.

Absalom's soldiers began to fall. Man after man went down. At last they turned and tried to run.

But now they were in trouble. Probably the rocks and tangled bushes of the woods stopped the men and heavy chariots.

Suddenly Absalom found himself alone. David's men were coming! He urged his mule forward and went crashing through the woods.

Straight in his path stood a great oak tree. Were the branches too low? Could Absalom ride beneath them?

On he rushed. He was riding for his life. He dashed under the tree. Then he tried to stop. Too late! His head had caught in the branches! The mule rushed on and Absalom was left hanging!

Soon King David's soldiers found him. Quickly they drew their swords and darts. Joab, one of their leaders, thrust three darts through his heart, and ten of his followers smote Absalom with their swords. So Absalom was killed as he hung there in the tree.

Absalom, the wicked, disobedient son, was dead. And King David, when he heard the sad news, was so filled with sorrow, that the great victory which his soldiers had gained gave him no joy.

Questions on the Lesson

1. What city did King David and his followers leave? 2. Why did they do this? 3. What was Absalom trying to do? 4. How did King David arrange his soldiers for battle? 5. Who were the leaders of the army? 6. Why could not David lead it

himself? 7. Where did he remain? 8. On what animal was Absalom riding? 9. How was he caught? 10. Who found him? 11. What did Joab do? 12. To whom were the tidings of Absalom's death brought? 13. How did David feel? 14. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Hymn

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle-shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed;
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child. Amen.

—Hymn 519, Book of Praise

I Have Learned Today

THAT I SHOULD OBEY MY PARENTS

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—34. What has God done to save us from sin? God sent His Son Jesus Christ into the world to save us from sin.

SHORTER CATECHISM—21. Who is the Redeemer of God's elect? A. The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continueth to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, for ever.

The Question on Missions

(Third Quarter, THE WORK OF A SOCIAL SETTLEMENT.)—1. What is a Social Settlement? A Social Settlement is a centre placed in a crowded part of a city, where a group of people make their home in order to share the lives and help the needs of those about them, thus showing the Christlike spirit of neighborliness.

AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL

CHILDREN OBEY YOUR PARENTS

Color these words of the Golden Text, and try every day to do what they say.