

...twice. On two different occasions, not at the same interview. **Saul was afraid of David.** We should expect to read "David was afraid of Saul;" but the godless man is always in fear of the godly. So Herod feared John the Baptist. Mark 6. 20. His fear was not of plots or attempts on his life, but lest David should win the hearts of the people and eclipse his own honors. 6. There is always a dread of the good on the part of the evil. **The Lord was with him.** Showing his favor in David's character and success. **Departed from Saul.** Who was left in wretchedness of spirits, in consciousness of sin, and without guidance in conduct. 7. The difference is soon manifested between the man with God and the one without Him.

13. Removed him. Sent him away from the court where he had captivated all, even the king himself in his nobler moments. See the token of Saul's real love for David in chap. 24. **16. Captain over a thousand.** Changed him from the command of the household troops to the higher, yet more difficult, position of a colonel of a regiment in the field. Abner, Saul's uncle, was the commander-in-chief of the army, and the main support of Saul's throne. Chap. 17. 55. **Went out and came in.** Fulfilling his trust in a wider sphere and in presence of all the people.

14, 15, 16. Behaved himself wisely. A repetition of the clause in verse 5, which means, in the original, both wisdom on the part of David, and the prosperity or success which came as its result. **Lord was with him.** Repeated for the third time already in David's history; as if to emphasize the fact. **Saul saw.** He could see both the ability of David in war and affairs, and also the prosperity which attended him. **He was afraid.** More clearly perceiving that David was the destined king. **All Israel and Judah.** The separate mention of Judah in several instances (see chap. 11. 8; 15. 4) showing that the bond of union among the tribes was slight, and the powerful tribe of Judah was alienated from Saul's rule. **Because he went out.** They loved him all the more now that he was more widely known throughout the kingdom. 8. The way to win regard is to act worthy of it.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the Lord was with him. 1 Sam. 18. 14.

OUTLINE.

1. The Love of the Prince, v. 1-4.
2. The Jealousy of the King, v. 5-11.
3. The Blessing of the Lord, v. 12-16.

HOME READINGS.

- M. David's enemy, Saul. 1 Sam. 18. 1-16.
 Tu. David in danger. 1 Sam. 19. 1-10.
 W. David and Samuel. 1 Sam. 19. 18-24.
 Th. Envy forbidden. Rom. 13. 8-14.
 F. The evil of envy. James 4. 1-12.
 S. Freedom from envy. 1 Cor. 3. 1-15.
 S. Mercy to the believer. Isa. 26. 1-11.

Time.—B. C. 1063.

Place.—Probably Gibeah, in the tribe of Benjamin, Saul's home.

Connecting Link.—David brought before Saul after the victory over Goliath. 1 Sam. 17. 52-58.

Explanations.—*He had made*—David, who had been brought before Saul. *The soul of Jonathan*—The son of Saul, and a brave young man. See his great deed in chap. 14. *Took him*—Into his service. *Go no more home*—To live, though he may have gone home to visit his parents. *Jonathan stripped himself*—The highest mark of love was for a prince to take off his own garments or weapons and give them to another. *Girdle*—A sash worn around the waist. *Behaved himself wisely*—He was wise because God was with him. *Accepted*—Beloved. *As they came*—After the war was over. *The women came out*—To meet the army on its return. *Tabrets*—Musical instruments somewhat like the tambourine. *David his ten thousands*—In slaying Goliath he had wrought as great a victory as the slaughter of ten thousand men. *Saul was very wroth*—He was naturally jealous, and made more so by fear of losing his kingdom. *Eyed David*—With jealousy and hatred. *The evil spirit*—Showing itself in fits of frenzy. *The evil God*—God allowed evil to possess Saul, who had forsaken him. *Propheesied*—The word here means a wild raving under some spirit's power. *David played*—To soothe him. *Javelin*—A spear. *Cast the javelin*—Intending to kill David. *Afraid of David*—Afraid lest God was intending to make David king in his place. *Captain over a thousand*—With the rank of what would be now called a colonel. *When Saul saw*—Saul saw David's growing influence and popularity, and the evidences that he enjoyed the favour of the Lord.

LESSON HYMNS.

No. 112, *New D. H.*

Father, bless our school to-day.

No. 257, *Hymn Book.*

L. M.

Wherewith, O God, shall I draw near,
 And bow myself before thy face?
 How in thy purer eyes appear?
 What shall I bring to gain thy grace?
 Will gifts delight the Lord Most High?
 Will multiplied oblations please?
 Thousands of rams his favour buy,
 Or slaughtered hecatombs appease?

No. 122, *New D. H.*

Be it my only wisdom here.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. The Love of the Prince, v. 1-4. Who was the prince? What brave deed had he done? See chap. 14. 1-13. What caused him to love David? How did he show his love? What did David afterward say of his love? 2 Sam. 1. 26. Who will prove to us a better friend? Prov. 18. 24.