

## SAMUEL THE JUDGE.

3 November.

Les. 1 Sam. 7: 5-15. Gol. Text, 1 Sam. 7: 12.  
Mem. vs. 12, 13. Catechism Q. 14-16.

## HOME READINGS.

M. 1 Sam. 4: 1-18. *The Death of Eli.*  
T. 1 Sam. 7: 5-15. *Samuel The Judge.*  
W. Psalm 99: 1-9. *Moses and Aaron and Samuel.*  
Th. 2 Cor. 7: 8-12. *"Godly Sorrow Worketh Repentance."*  
F. Eph. 2: 1-12. *Access through Christ.*  
S. Rom. 8: 31-39. *"Who also Maketh Intercession for Us."*  
S. Prov. 11: 1-12. *"By the Blessing of the Upright."*

*Time*.—B. C. 1097, forty years after the call of Samuel, who is now about forty-two years old.  
*Place*.—Mizpeh, the watch-tower, about five miles north-west of Jerusalem.

## BETWEEN THE LESSONS.

The Judgments threatened against the house of Eli and the Israelites were executed after a delay of about twenty years. The Israelites were defeated by the Philistines; the ark, which had been sent to the battle field with the hope that its presence would secure the victory, was taken; and the two sons of Eli were slain. Eli, then ninety-eight years old, on hearing the news fell from his seat, his neck was broken, and he died. For about twenty years after this the Israelites were oppressed by the Philistines, until, disciplined by their long oppression, and awakened to penitence by the words and life of Samuel, they forsook their idolatry and returned to the service of Jehovah. Study the chapters between last lesson and this.

## LESSON PLAN.

- I. "Praying for the People." vs. 5-8.
- II. "Sacrificing for the People." vs. 9-12.
- III. "Judging the People." vs. 14-15.

## HELPS IN STUDYING.

5. "Mizpeh" - they were gathered there to declare their penitence and to renounce idolatry while Samuel interceded for them. 6. "Drew water, and poured it out" - in token of humiliation and sorrow for their sins, and of the binding nature of their vows. "Samuel Judged" - hitherto he had acted only as a prophet. 7. "When the Philistines heard" - they considered this assembly as a signal of war. "Went up against Israel" - to crush the rebellion at once. 8. "Cease not" - they sought aid only from the Lord, through Samuel's intercession. He first made atonement by sacrifice for their sins, and then interceded for them. So Christ, having by his death made atonement for our sins, now ever liveth to make intercession for us. 10. "The Lord thundered" - in answer to Samuel's prayer. Terrific peals of thunder so confused and terrified the Philistines that they fled. 11. "Beth-car" - on a hill overhanging the road from the Philistine territory to Mizpeh. 12. "Took a stone, and set it" - as a memorial. "Ebenezer" - "stone of help." 14. "Ekron" - the chief and most northern of the five Philistine cities. Josh. 13: 2. "Gath" - another of the five principal Philistine cities. "Amorites" - next to the Philistines, the strongest enemy of Israel. 15. "All the days of his life" - Samuel retained a civil and religious authority even after Saul became the military leader of the people.

## LIFE TEACHINGS.

1. "God will pardon those who confess and forsake their sins."
2. "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."
3. "Answers to prayer deserve memorials of praise."
4. "God's help in the past should lead us to trust Him for the future."
5. "Christ ever liveth to make intercession for us, and Him the Father heareth always."

## SAUL CHOSEN KING

10 November.

Les. 1 Sam. 10: 17-27 Gol. Text, Psalm 97: 1.  
Mem. vs. 24, 25. Catechism Q. 17-19

## HOME READINGS.

M. 1 Sam. 8: 1-22. .... *Israel asking for a King.*  
T. 1 Sam. 9: 1-27. .... *Saul's visit to Samuel.*  
W. 1 Sam. 10: 1-16. .... *Saul anointed by Samuel.*  
Th. 1 Sam. 10: 17-27. .... *Saul Chosen King.*  
F. Psalm 106: 1-15. .... *Their Request Given.*  
S. Psalm 2: 1-12. .... *My King upon my Holy Hill "*  
S. Psalm 146: 1-14. .... *An Everlasting Kingdom.*

*Time*.—B. C. 1075, twenty years after the last lesson. Some make the date about B. C. 1095.

*Place*.—Mizpeh about five miles north-west of Jerusalem.

## BETWEEN THE LESSONS.

Peace and prosperity followed the victory at Ebenezer, under the wise rule of Samuel; but the corrupt practices of his sons, whom in his old age he had associated with him as judges, caused discontent among the people, who therefore said to Samuel. "Make us a king to judge us like all the nations." Samuel was displeased, and prayed to the Lord, who told him to grant their request and directed Samuel to privately anoint Saul as king. The people were then gathered at Mizpeh to publicly choose a king by lot. Study this intermediate history in 1 Sam. 8: 1-10: 16

## HELPS IN STUDYING.

18. "I brought up Israel" - the Lord recounts his mercies to show their ingratitude. 19. "Rejected your God" - by their demand for a king. "Before the Lord" - before the altar of Jehovah which stood at Mizpeh. 1 Sam. 7: 9. "Your thousands" - your families. 20. "Was taken" - tribe, family, and individuals were successively taken by lot, and Saul was the choice. Thus the Lord who had forechosen the king directed the lot (Prov. 16: 33) and gave the new king his title to the throne. 21. "Could not be found" - having hidden himself in humility and modesty. 22. "The Lord answered" - thus confirming the selection by lot. "The stuff" - the baggage. 23. "Higher than any" - tall, and noble in appearance, he fulfilled physically the primitive ideal of a king. 24. "Whom the Lord hath chosen" - the people had wickedly asked a king, but the Lord had chosen him. "God save the king" - literally, "Live the king!" 25. "The manner of the kingdom" - a charter establishing and defining the relation of the king to Jehovah and the people. 26. "Gibeah" - four miles north of Jerusalem. "A band of men" - an escort of honor, the nucleus of an army. 27. "Children of Belial" - literally, "certain worthless fellows." "Held his peace" - literally, "was as one deaf; ignored this insult. Prov. 19: 11.

## LIFE TEACHINGS.

1. "God shows great forbearance toward the erring and rebellious."
2. "He overrules the conduct of men even when they reject his authority."
3. "He sometimes disciplines and punishes men by letting them have their own way."
4. "He does not leave them entirely to the consequences of their folly."
5. "When the ends of discipline are answered he provides for them something better than they had desired."

The best method with a hard passage of Scripture is to obey as much of it as you can understand and then take another look at it.