

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON
SEPTEMBER 26TH.

Review: Saul, David and Solomon
Compared—Psalm 72. Golden
Text, 1 Sam. 16: 7.

The characters of David and Solomon, father and son, are presented to us in the Biblical narrative in striking contrast. Different as they are in character, so also are they in their respective careers, in education, early life, companionship, and exercise of kingly authority. They are alike only in their piety and in their loyal devotion to the worship of Jehovah, a loyalty which, however, in the case of Solomon, was weakened toward the end of his life. There is a likeness, too, in their love of justice, but Solomon's extravagances and great enterprises cost so much that he was obliged, early in his reign, to resort to very unjust and tyrannical measures, both to get money and supplies for his court and army, and to get labor for his lewelling, quarrying, and building.

David was a man of the people. He knew the people with whom he had toiled as a shepherd, with whom he had fought in the wars, some of whom had been his companions in exile, with whom he had shared in many perilous enterprises, whose customs and ideas he understood, and whom he passionately desired to serve. Solomon was brought up in the court, in the royal

household. He knew much from observation, and had a shrewd practical outlook upon life which finds expression in his proverbs, but he never had the close contact and warm sympathy with the common people which David had, and as time passed he grew more and more a stranger to them. They saw and praised his splendor and his wisdom, but they were restless and discontented under the burdens which his rule imposed upon them. It was a fine thing indeed to have a splendid temple and palaces in Jerusalem, but the ordinary Israelite thought more of his local sanctuary, the high place where his fathers had worshipped, and was not willing to give up one-third of his time to these remote and costly undertakings. David understood and loved the people. Solomon may have had an academic knowledge of them, but he can hardly be said to have really understood or loved them.

David was a soldier with the readiness, courage, tact, and resourcefulness of the true soldier. He saw the imperative need of national unity and labored strenuously to secure and establish it. Following up the work of Samuel, and inspired by his example, he set himself to make a strong nation out of the divided and jealous tribes and succeeded, or would have succeeded, if it had not been for the ungrateful and disloyal conduct of his son Absalom and the civil war which he brought about. Solomon did seek the same end by his building of forts and by his standing army, and

by the building of a temple which was to be a common place of worship for all Israel. But his heavy exactions, the partiality which he showed his own tribe of Judah, and the favor and indulgence with which he treated his foreign wives and concubines, estranged and divided the people whom he would have unified.

David honored the prophets, and when rebuked by them for a sin, or invasion of the people's rights, submitted himself to the rebuke. But Solomon had little regard for the ancient rights of the people, and offended the prophets of Jehovah by building altars for Chemosh and Moloch, and offering worship to the goddess Ashtoreh.

It is in the earlier part of his reign that the character of Solomon shines most brightly. It is to that part of his reign that the words of Psalm 72 may refer, if indeed they are intended to refer to Solomon, and not rather to the ideal king of the future, whose coming the prophets foretold.

It is clear that Solomon earnestly desired to be such a ruler, and the ideals of justice to the poor, combined with those of wide sovereignty and national stability and permanence which find expression in this psalm may well be those which he had inherited from his father.

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Poultry.

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Concrete floors will be more warm and dry if a couple of inches of clean sand are placed between the floor and the straw litter. Garden loam is not a substitute for sand. The loam is soon changed to dry dust and the scratching of the hens will keep the air in the house full of dust. This is unhealthy for the birds and the poultryman who must care for them.

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Fallacies in Feeding Beef Cattle.

Cattle feeding is a business that must be viewed from many different angles if one makes a success of it. What is termed success in cattle feeding is the same as in any other business pursuit, viz., a financial gain or making money out of the business. Different types of feeders must of necessity be handled differently to get the best results. There are mature feeders of the best beef type. The calf or baby beef of the same type. The low grade or scrub adult or baby beef type. Each of these different types and grades must be handled differently.

Most people ignore the scrub in the feed lot. But as long as they are raised they must be fed out or go to the shambles unfitted. Nearly all dairy bred cattle are scrubs in the feed lot no matter how well bred they are in the dairy line. They are poor feeders and never make fancy beefs. In this article I wish to speak of the best grade of feeders of the more mature kind. Say, two-year-olds or better, and with these as with all other sizes or grades, have them of as uniform size, shape and color as possible, for several reasons. First, they will feed better because there are no small ones or underlings for the large ones to fight and abuse, each one being better able to take their own part. Then, if of the same size and color, they look better to everyone, including the commission man and the buyer, and everyone interested will work harder to get the best price, and if the cattle are worthy, to make them top the market. He knows it is to their interest to do so. And a buyer will pay a little more for a nice even bunch.

Now, after you have your feeders, and if not of a uniform size I would advise dividing the feed lot and sorting them up as best you can as to size. If they are to be dry-lot fed. But if they are to be summer-fed in pasture then let them all run together. I like summer feeding on pasture best, as it saves a lot of work. There is no manure to haul out and it is distributed over the pasture better than it can be done by hand or a spreader, and much easier and cheaper. The most essential things about summer feeding are plenty of good leguminous pasture, water, grain, salt, shade and a rack full of good hay.

Now, in starting to feed one should be very careful. Don't try to get them on full feed too quickly. Better be a full month or longer than to get some of them off feed and perhaps scouring. For if so, they will lose more in one day than can be put on in the next week. Cattle rightly started while on good pasture, will gain faster on the same amount of feed than dry-lot-fed cattle. And here again you save the labor and expense of putting up the hay they eat. I like the self-feeders after the cattle are on full feed. It is

a labor-saver and they never get over-hungry if the self-feeders are kept supplied. Don't neglect the water. See that they have access at all times to good fresh water. Likewise salt. And have a rack of good hay for them to run to. They will eat more hay than run to. They will eat more hay than one might think while on grass, and where they have access to good hay they are not as apt to scour or bloat.

As winter or dry-lot feeding is somewhat different from summer feeding I would say, sort your cattle as I have described before, if need be. And if horned cattle, have them dehorned. They feed better and require only about half the shed room and they usually sell better. Don't have your yards too large. Warm the drinking water in cold weather with tank heater. It is cheaper than to warm it with feed. Give them a good dry bed and a good open shed free from draft. What I mean by an open shed is one side open, preferably the south, and all other sides closed tight. And of sufficient size so all can get in and not be too crowded. It should be kept well bedded and dry.

Remember, in your cattle you have a money-making, or a money-losing machine, and their ability to make money depends on the care and feed you give them. If they have a good dry bed where they can lay down in comfort they will put on flesh much faster and with less feed. And then another essential thing is kindness. Pet your cattle and handle them much, always being kind to them. They appreciate it and will reward you by putting on a few more pounds of flesh.

In regard to feed, I would say by all means feed a balanced ration. While corn is one of the most essential feeds it is by no means the only feed, and should never be fed alone. There are several feeds that should be used in connection with corn. And the more variety of feeds used the better results as a rule.

Cottonseed meal should be used and especially if cattle are fed on pasture, as it is somewhat binding and cattle are not as apt to scour. Oil meal is good, but it is somewhat of a laxative. Both are good. Bran and oats are also good and should be used in connection with corn. And if roots are available they, too, can be used to good advantage. As for roughage, good alfalfa hay and corn silage leads them all. Clover hay or soybean hay make good second choice. Corn has a tendency to harden the flesh and no animal will put on flesh as rapidly with corn alone as their flesh becomes too hard. Their flesh and hide should be mellow and loose, what the breeder calls a good handler. And they are easily kept in this condition if properly fed and cared for.

Cattle of different size and ages require different amounts. Don't over-feed until they are on full feed, and then if the different feeds or constantly before them, they will balance their own ration and will not eat too much. Before they are on full feed be very particular to feed regular. Have a few hogs to run with the cattle. Enough to clean up the waste.

The greater number of four-horse teams and even some five-horse teams on fourteen-inch sulky plows for fall plowing is accounted for by the fact that plowing in the fall is usually about one inch deeper than in the spring, and also by the fact that the ground is generally dry and hard to turn. On an average, outfits of the same size cover about a half acre less per day in the fall than in the spring.



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