

Primary Department.

Conducted by GEORGE H. ARCHIBALD, Superintendent St. Matthew's S. S., Montreal, Que.

LESSON IX—December 1st, 1896.

David Anointed King. I SAM. 16: 1-13.

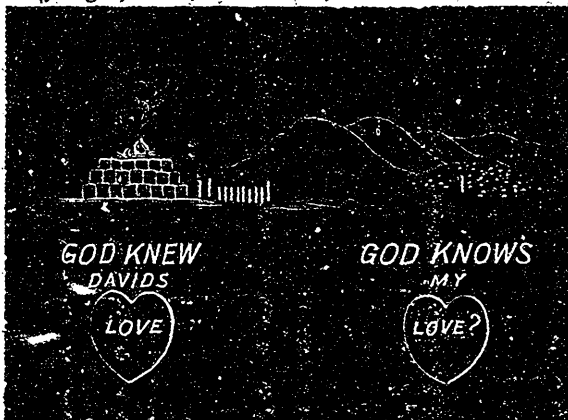
I. GOLDEN TEXT: "Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." I Sam. 16: 7.

II. PREVIEW THOUGHT: God knows all things.

III. REVIEW: What was our last lesson about? To whom did Isaiah say "Woe"? Do people ever fall into these dangers now? How can they keep from them?

IV. INTERESTING EVENTS: After Samuel had told Saul that God had rejected him, he commanded that Agag be brought to him, and he killed him. Then Samuel and Saul parted, and Samuel returned to his home at Ramah.

V. LESSON STORY: Samuel must have loved Saul very much, and also been very much disappointed with the way he had acted, for God came to him and said, "Samuel, how long wilt thou mourn for Saul?" God then told him to fill his horn with oil, and go to Bethlehem and there anoint one of the sons of Jesse, who was to be king instead of Saul. Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hear it, he will kill me." But God told him to take a heifer with him and say that he was come to offer sacrifice. When Samuel came to Bethlehem, the elders of the town were afraid, and asked him if he came peaceably. He told them he had come peaceably, and asked them to come to the sacrifice. Then he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice. Samuel had likely told Jesse that God had chosen one of his sons to be king, and had sent him to anoint him; and asked Jesse to let each of his sons pass before him; for the Lord was going to tell him which one was to be the king. First, Eliab, Jesse's eldest son, passed before Samuel. He was tall and fine looking, and Samuel said, "Surely the Lord's anointed is before Him." But God said "Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him; for the Lord seeth not as man seeth: for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. Next Abinadab passed by, and Samuel said, "Neither hath the Lord chosen him." Shammah passed by, and Samuel said, "Neither hath the Lord chosen him." Next, Jesse made seven more of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said, "God hath not chosen these." Then Samuel asked Jesse if all his children were there? Jesse said he had one more, the youngest, and he was away keeping the sheep. Samuel told Jesse to fetch him. So he sent and brought him. He was ruddy, and of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look at. God said to Samuel, "This is the one whom I have chosen to be king: arise and anoint him." So Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day. Samuel rose up and went home to Ramah. As you speak of the sacrifice, draw an altar on the board, make a stroke for Samuel, another for Jesse, a larger one for Eliab and others, as each of the sons pass by. When the youngest, David, is mentioned, draw a scene in the distance, hill, with dots for sheep feeding, and a crook for David, the shepherd. As you bring him before Samuel make a stroke for him.



VI. APPLICATION. Our Golden Text says: "Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." When Jesse's sons were passing before Samuel, as Eliab, the tall, fine-looking, soldier-like one, went along, Samuel thought surely this is the one whom God has chosen to be king. But God knew better than Samuel, while Samuel could see that outwardly he seemed to be just the one fit to be a king, God could

see better and deeper. He could see right into his heart. Perhaps there was something there that God did not like, or, perhaps, there was something wanting there that God would have