

Lesson I.

ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

July 5, 1908

1 Samuel 8 : 10-22. *Commit to memory vs. 19, 20. Study 1 Samuel, ch. 8. Read Deuteronomy 17 : 14-20.

GOLDEN TEXT—By me kings reign, and princes decree justice.—Proverbs 8 : 15.

10 And Sam'uel told all the words of the Lord unto the people that asked of him a king.

11 And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you : He will take your sons, and appoint them ¹ for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen ; and ² some shall run before his chariots.

12 And he will appoint ³ him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties ; and will set ⁴ them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and ⁵ instruments of his chariots.

13 And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers.

14 And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants.

15 And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants.

Revised Version—¹ unto him ; ² they ; ³ them unto him for captains of ; ⁴ some to plow ; ⁵ the ; ⁶ flocks ; ⁷ answer ; ⁸ But the ; ⁹ hearken unto

LESSON PLAN

- I. Samuel's Warning, 10-18.
- II. Israel's Refusal, 19, 22.
- III. Jehovah's Consent, 27, 22.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—Israel asks for a king, 1 Sam. 8 : 1-9. T.—Israel asks for a king, 1 Sam. 8 : 10-22. W.—Commands concerning a king, Deut. 17 : 14-20. Th.—The event recalled, Acts 13, 14-23. F.—Ruling by wisdom, Prov. 8 : 10-19. S.—Refusing to hear, Prov. 1 : 20-33. S.—Prayer for kings, 1 Tim. 2 : 1-8.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 94. What is baptism? A. Baptism is a sacrament, wherein the washing with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, doth signify and seal our ingrafting into Christ, and partaking of the

16 And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men and your asses, and put them to his work.

17 He will take the tenth of your ⁸ sheep : and ye shall be his servants.

18 And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you ; and the Lord will not ⁷ hear you in that day.

19 ⁹ Nevertheless the people refused to ⁹ obey the voice of Sam'uel ; and they said, Nay : but we will have a king over us ;

20 That we also may be like all the nations ; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles.

21 And Sam'uel heard all the words of the people, and he rehearsed them in the ears of the Lord.

22 And the Lord said to Sam'uel, Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king. And Sam'uel said unto the men of Is'rael, Go ye every man unto his city.

benefits of the covenant of grace, and our engagement to be the Lord's.

The Questions on Missions—(Third Quarter, THE GROWTH OF A WESTERN MISSION FIELD.)—1. What is the country like? Most of the Red River valley is perfectly level, like the bottom of an ancient lake, as it is. Further west the land is gently undulating, with clumps of poplar or willow and with little lakes, which are usually marshy round the margins.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 46 (Supplemental Lesson) ; 245 ; 217 ; 98 (Ps. Sel.) ; 4 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY) ; 111.

Special Scripture Reading—Ps. 15. (To be read responsively or in concert by the whole School.) It is expected that each scholar will have his or her Bible, and so be prepared to take part in this reading, which may form part of the opening exercises of the School.

EXPOSITION

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Time and Place—About 1020 B.C. (according to Ussher's chronology given in the Margin of the English Bible, B.C. 1112 ; Ramah.

Connecting Links—The Lessons for 1907 closed with Samuel's gathering Israel together at Mizpeh for a great religious service of repentance, confession of sin and new consecration to Jehovah. A signal victory over the Philistines followed. (See 1 Sam. ch. 7 : 1-13.) For about twenty years after that event, Samuel ruled Israel as judge. After entering Canaan, the Israelites had to battle long to win the land of promise ; and they had a hard struggle to protect themselves against their neighbors, Moabites, Midianites and Philistines, who grudged them the fair land. The champions of the

people in their wars at home and abroad were the judges. In days of peace, these champions were powerful magistrates.

Samuel was the last of the judges. His custom was to make yearly circuits (see Geography Lesson) to administer justice. When he became old, he made his sons judges along with himself. One judged in Bethel and one in Beersheba, says Josephus, the Jewish historian. But they were unjust and took bribes (ch. 8 : 3), as Eastern judges have always done (see Prov. 17 : 8, 23 ; 18 : 16). The people bore this for a time ; then in indignation they came to Samuel, through "the elders", and demanded a new ruler. They asked for a king ; a king would, they thought, rule them justly, vs. 1-5. Samuel did not know how to deal with the people's

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Leaflets are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. Their recitation leads to the securing of a beautiful Certificate or Diploma.