

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR SCHOOL AND HOME.

NOTES FOR TEACHERS.

THE CHILDREN OF THE BIBLE.

NO 8. DAVID.

To read—1 Sam. xvi., xvii. (parts of).

I. **THE YOUNG SHEPHERD.** (Read xvi. 1-13.) Have had a story of a Judge—to-day of one who afterwards became a king. Who was first King of Israel? Saul began well, but soon disobeyed God. Another must be chosen. Where was one to be found? What sort of a king would be wanted? *Brave*, to fight against enemies—*Wise*, to rule a great nation—*Godly*, to teach fear of God. God knew where one such to be found. Who was sent to anoint him? Can picture Samuel, old, gray-haired (1 Sam. xii. 2) prophet, coming to little village of Bethlehem—the sudden calling of the people from their work—the alarm of the elders (verse 4)—the evening sacrifice—the calling up of Jesse's sons. What did Samuel look at? Height, strength, outward appearance. What does God look at? So six sons passed by and passed over. Where does the right one come from? How surprised David must have been, and his brothers, and Jesse! But Samuel did as God told him. What came upon David? Had already had measure of God's Spirit—knew God—loved Him—sang His praises when in fields, (Psa. viii., xxiii., etc.), now has the special gift of Spirit to prepare him for future life.

II. **THE YOUNG COURTIER.** (Read xvi. 14-23.) What was the matter with Saul? Had forsaken God—displeased Him, and evil spirit permitted now to trouble him. Probably showed itself by low spirits, sulky temper, etc. What do the servants suggest? So

David is sent for. Another surprise to him. What a change from fields—minding flock—to a king's court. But what a good thing for him to learn about court life—make friends there—be prepared for future life. What did he take with him? Eastern custom to take a present. How did Saul regard him? Probably no idea of what Samuel had done to him. See another instance of God's working things together for good. What effect did the playing have? No wonder Saul loved him—kept him with him—made him his armour-bearer.

III. **THE YOUNG WARRIOR.** (Read xvii. 32-37.) Story well known—need only point out one or two things. See David's *trust*. God had helped him before, and would again. Also his *boldness*. Goes out unarmed and alone against the giant. What was the result? The giant killed—enemy defeated—the country saved.

LESSONS. Notice the following points in David's character:—(1) *His seeking God early*. Seems to have feared God from his earliest childhood. Began well, and so went on well (2) *His discretion*. When in Saul's court behaved wisely, and made friends—fitting himself for future life. (3) *His courage*—both bodily and morally. A splendid example for boys. Secret of all was presence of God's Spirit in his heart.

TEXT: *Even a child is known by his doings—Quiver.*

NO. 9. SOLOMON.

To read—1 Chron. xxviii.; 2 Chron. i. (parts of).

I. **A PIOUS FATHER.** (Read 1 Chron. xxviii. 5-10, 20, 21.) David's