

# The Home Study Quarterly

FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOLARS.

Vol. II.

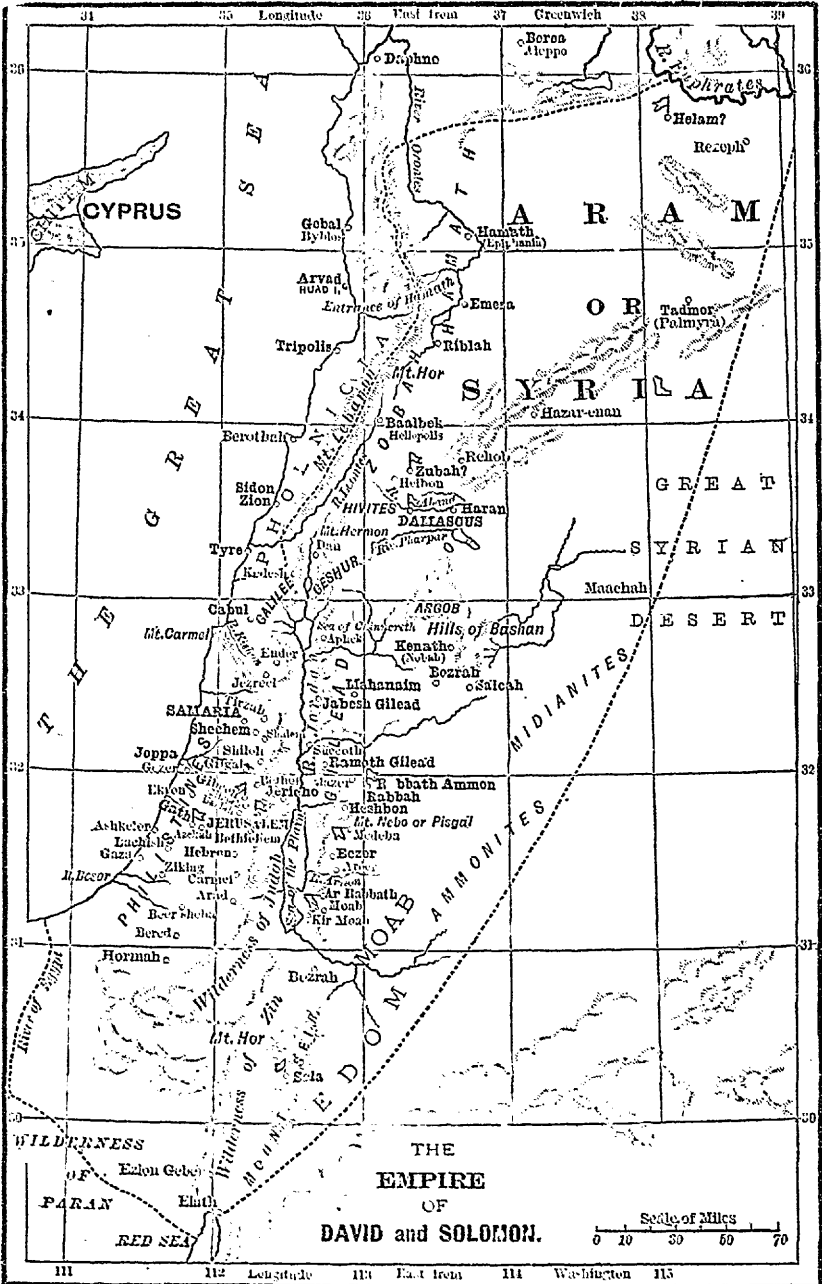
July, August and September.

No. 3.

## LINKS CONNECTING WITH THE LESSONS OF 1895.

Our last lesson from the Old Testament, December 15th, 1895, told the story of Jonathan's loving leave-taking of David (1 Sam. 20: 32-42). That was the turning point in David's career. For six years thereafter he was an outlaw. The leading events of these years were: (1) While at Naioth king Saul in frenzy tries to kill his son Jonathan; David at Nob receives sacred bread and Goliath's sword from Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam. 21: 1-9). (2) David escapes to Gath in Philistia, but being received with sullen suspicion, feigns madness and flies back again to Judah (1 Sam. 21: 10-15). (3) He takes refuge in a cave near Adullam, a little border town only two miles from the valley of Elah where Goliath was slain, and thirteen west from Bethlehem. Ancient wells and caves are here, one cave with ample accommodations for four hundred men, and the modern Arabic name is identical with Adullam. Here four hundred adventurers, tired of Saul's rule, joined the young captain (1 Sam. 22: 1, 2). They lived by forays on the Philistines, who at this time overran Judah, and by levies made on neighboring towns and planters as the price of David's protection. In this company were his nephews Joab, Abishai and Asahel, a young prophet named Gad, and a number of Canaanite warriors, such as Uriah, Zelek and Ithma. (4) It is interesting to note that according to the inscriptions of Psalms 6, 7, 11, 57, 59 and 142 they were all written after the outbreak of Saul's jealousy and before David's flight to Gath; Psalms 56 and 34 were written while he was there, and Psalm 63 after his flight to the wilderness of Judah. (5) When David's followers had increased to six hundred men (1 Sam. 23: 13) he marched around the lower end of the Dead Sea and left his aged parents at Mispheh in charge of the kindly king of Moab, who probably remembered that David's ancestress was a Moabitess. About this time David made the friendship of Nahash, king of Ammon, also (2 Sam. 10: 2) and according to tradition wrote Psalm 27. (6) David returned to the forest of Hareth, probably in the Hebron mountains, near Adullam, where he heard of Saul's revengeful slaughter of the priests at Nob, and took Abiathar, the son of Ahimelech, under his protection. (*Herwhit's Notes*).

Hard as these years of exile were for David to bear, yet they were most fruitful years to him as his apprenticeship for the kingdom, as his "schools and schoolmasters." (1) By his exile among other nations he learned their characteristics and how best to deal with them. (2) He could contrast the effect of their religion with that of the religion of Jehovah, and thus become confirmed in true religion and patriotism. This led to the marvellous development of religious institutions and of the service of song under his administration. (3) The exile experiences preserved him from the dangers to which his sudden elevation to power and popularity would expose him. He learned his weakness and need of divine help. (4) He had the best of opportunities for becoming acquainted with the people, their grievances under Saul, their needs, their dispositions and tendencies. He understood their spiritual as well as temporal wants. (5) He had practice in the art of governing. (6) He gained experience in war. (7) He obtained a knowledge of the country. (8) In this school of fighting men were trained those generals and wise strategists who in the golden days of David's rule commanded his armies, and raised Israel from the obscurity of an "Arab" tribe, who with difficulty held their own among the ancient Canaanites, to the position of one of the great nations of the old eastern world. (*Ellicott*). (9) He had around him a trained band, like the "old guard" which enabled him to take immediate possession of the kingdom when the time came. (10) Many of his sweetest songs were wrought out by his long and hard experience for the comfort and hope not only of his own people, but for God's children in all ages. (11) In spite of his few lapses from faith and perfect truth, he grew in character and manhood, he became strong in faith and virtue, large-hearted, wise, noble, consecrated to God. (*Pritchard's Notes*).



Engraved for the Home Study Series.

# The Lessons of the Third Quarter, 1896.

**To the Scholar.**—Study the lesson carefully, turning up all the marginal references, and review the "Daily Portions." Then close your Bible and answer in writing the questions on the lesson without accepting aid from any quarter after you have begun to write. If you cannot come to Sabbath school, fill out one of the "Excuses for Absence" and send it, with your written answers, to your teacher by some friend, or by mail, and you will receive credit for the work done as if you had been present. If your excuse is satisfactory, you will not lose in record of attendance.

## THE CHARACTER OF DAVID.

The character of David has been very differently judged. In his own day he was the idol of his people; to the subsequent prophets and priests he was the model king; to the later Jews his kingdom typified the kingdom of the Messiah, of whom he was himself the type. His piety, his zeal for Jehovah, his tender compassion, his generous sympathy, his bold enterprise, his dauntless courage, entitle him to admiration. He is recognized as the worthy leader of the chosen people, and, next to Abraham, the father of the faithful, comes David, the man after God's own heart. Some writers have slighted David's claim upon the enthusiasm of the church and sought to emphasize his faults so that they might sneer at his religion. But the best refutation of this detraction is the Bible record, so free from flattery, so candid and comprehensive, and yet leaving an impression that its subject was a hero, a man cast in a rare mould. His sayings and doings fill well nigh three entire books of the Old Testament, while references to him are found upon almost every page of the Bible. He comes before us in every light—as shepherd, musician, champion, courtier, fugitive, chief, warrior, king; what life could be more varied? In a more domestic way he appears as an obedient son, respectful younger brother, modest youth, ardent lover, faithful friend, tender husband and indulgent father. All along the line of his development, private and public, his piety is marked. The psalms he wrote attest the depth of his love for God and his unwavering confidence. His character was essentially the same from the days when under the glistering stars, as boyish poet, he sang, "The heavens declare the glory of God" (Ps. 19), until the day when as aged monarch it was said of him, "The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended" (Ps. 72). He was by no means perfect. He was compassed with infirmities; but he mourned his defections and was pardoned. The struggle with his passionate nature, strong and proud, was kept up incessantly, and, though oft defeated, he conquered at last. The sins for which he is to-day mocked were precisely those of an Oriental king. He was the man after God's own heart, not in his sins, but in his repentance and in his earnest effort after a higher and purer life. (*Schaff-Hertzog Cyclopaedia*).

## DAVID AND THE PSALMS.

The spirit of God acting through his great natural gifts, and using his diversified experience of life, originated in David a new form of inspiration. The law was the revelation of the mind, and, in some measure, of the heart, of God to man. The psalm is the echo of the law, the return current set in motion by the outflow of the divine will, the response of the heart of man to the manifested God. There had indeed been traces of hymns before David. There was the burst of triumph which the daughters of Israel sang, with timbrel and dance, over Pharaoh and his host; the prayer of Moses the man of God (Ps. 90), so archaic in its tone, bearing in every line the impress of the weary wilderness and the law of death; the song of the dying law-giver (Deut. 33); the passionate psalm of Deborah, and some briefer fragments. But, practically, the psalm began with David; and though many hands struck the harp after him, even down at least to the return from the exile, he remains emphatically "the sweet psalmist of Israel."

The psalms which are attributed to him have, on the whole, a marked similarity of manner. Their characteristics have been well summed up as "creative originality, predominantly elegiac tone, graceful form and movement, antique but lucid style," to which may be added the intensity of their devotion, the passion of divine love which glows in them all. They correspond, too, with the circumstances of his life as given in the historical books. The early shepherd days, the manifold sorrows, the hunted wanderings, the royal authority, the wars, the triumphs, the sin, the remorse, which are woven together so strikingly in the latter, all reappear in the psalms. The allusions, indeed, are for the most part general rather than special, as is natural. His words are thereby the better fitted for ready application to the trials of other lives. Of the whole collection, there are about forty-five which we may attribute with confidence to David. Notwithstanding recent criticism, we hold the superscriptions "a psalm of David," &c., to be of great value. They are at least as old as the collection itself; the septuagint translators found them there; the synagogue preserves no traditions to explain them; they prove their trustworthiness by their appropriateness, and are most common in the confessedly most ancient portion of the psalter. (*Dr. Alexander Macaren*).

## LESSON I—July 5th, 1896.

### David King of Judah. 2 SAM. 2: 1-11.

(Commit to memory verses 5-7).

GOLDEN TEXT: "The Lord reigneth; let the earth rejoice." Ps. 97: 1.

PROVE THAT—The Lord knows our hearts. Jer. 17: 10

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 65. *What is forbidden in the fifth commandment?* A. The fifth commandment forbiddeth the neglecting of, or doing anything against, the honor and duty which belongeth to every one in their several places and relations.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 126, 161, 139, 167.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* David King of Judah. 2 Sam. 2: 1-11. *Tuesday.* The first anointing. 1 Sam. 16: 1-13. *Wednesday.* The death of Saul. 2 Sam. 1: 1-12. *Thursday.* Lamentation for Saul and Jonathan. 2 Sam. 1: 17-27. *Friday.* Burial of Saul. 1 Sam. 31: 7-13. *Saturday.* A king's homage. Ps. 21: 1-7. *Sabbath.* The Son of David. Mark 11: 1-11. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

By Rev. JAS. A. BROWN, B. A., Agincourt, Ont.

INTRODUCTORY. In our last lesson in the study of the life and times of David, "David and Jonathan," we find an illustration of the spirit of unselfishness in the matter of true friendship unparalleled in O. T. history. David then became a fugitive and an outlaw. He first visited Nob, at that time the chief sanctuary of Israel, although the ark was at Kirjathjearim. Ahimelech the priest believing him to be on a royal mission gave him some of the sacred "shew-bread" and Goliath's sword (1 Sam. 21: 6; 22: 10). David for a season found shelter in Gath, where he feigned madness in the presence of Achish the king. Driven out he found refuge in the stronghold of Adullam. There he was joined by 400 discontents. His next act was to rescue Keilah from the Philistines. Fearing Saul he fled to Ziph. His whereabouts was made known to Saul by the Ziphites. Pursued by Saul and 3000 chosen men, he generously spared the life of Saul on this as well as on a later occasion. David formed a feudal alliance with Achish, king of Gath, and was given the town of Ziklag, agreeing to pay tribute, and to render military service when required. The lords of the Philistines were bitterly opposed to David. Forced to quit the army, he found Ziklag in ashes, and the families of himself and followers taken captives by the Amalekites. With 400 men David pursued, overtook, routed and destroyed all the Amalekites save 400 slaves that escaped. Tidings of Saul and Jonathan's death grieved David exceedingly. The beautiful elegy he composed he bade the men of Judah learn by heart (2 Sam. 1: 19-27).

LESSON PLAN. I. Divine Guidance. vs. 1-3. II. David Anointed King of Judah. vs. 4. III. David's Reign at Hebron. vs. 5-11.

It is delightful to think how much Jonathan the king's son loved David.<sup>1</sup> It should remind us of how Jesus the son of God loves us.<sup>2</sup> When David heard that Saul and Jonathan were killed in battle he was very sorry. He composed a beautiful song on the lives of Saul and Jonathan, and asked all the men of Judah to learn it by heart.<sup>3</sup> We all should learn by heart the verses in the Bible that tell us of the love of Jesus. David knew that he was going to be king, for he had been anointed<sup>4</sup> by Samuel for this purpose. David would not take a single step himself, but waited on the Lord and asked<sup>5</sup> him to direct his steps. The Lord not only encouraged David to go to Judah, but to make Hebron, a very old city, his headquarters. Jesus will encourage and direct the steps of all that follow<sup>6</sup> him. David and his men and their families went down and settled in the country round about Hebron.<sup>7</sup> The men of Judah were delighted with David, and their elders anointed him king of Judah. A few years after this David was anointed king over Israel. Christ signifies "anointed," because he was anointed by the Holy Spirit<sup>8</sup> to the threefold office of prophet, priest and king. Usually when a king is crowned, he receives a great many messages of congratulation. But the first message David got was a report of the kindness some good men had shewn Saul. And the first message David sent as king was to thank those men and tell them he would be kind to them. Before Jesus was crucified wicked men put a crown of thorns<sup>9</sup> on his head. But Jesus is now in heaven and is going to give a crown<sup>10</sup> of life to all that love him. Saul had a son and Abner wanted to make him king. He didn't want David to be made king. So there are people who won't have Jesus to be their king.<sup>11</sup> Ishbosheth was the name of Saul's son. He was made king over Israel but only ruled two years, while David reigned at Hebron over Judah 7½ years and soon afterwards became king of Israel too.

<sup>1</sup> 1 Sam. 18: 1. <sup>2</sup> Rom. 5: 8. <sup>3</sup> Sam. 1: 18. <sup>4</sup> 1 Sam. 16: 13. <sup>5</sup> v. 1. <sup>6</sup> Matt. 16: 24. <sup>7</sup> Matt. 16: 16. <sup>8</sup> Matt. 3: 16. <sup>9</sup> Mark 15: 17. <sup>10</sup> Rev. 2: 10. <sup>11</sup> Luke 19: 14.

LESSONS. 1. Seek Divine guidance in every undertaking. 2. Always follow the guidance of Providence. 3. "Rejoice in the kingdom of Jesus."

## LESSON II—July 12th, 1896.

### David King over all Israel. 2 SAM. 5: 1-12.

(Commit to memory verses 10-13).

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "David went on, and grew great, and the Lord God of hosts was with him."  
2 Sam. 5: 10.

**PROVE THAT**—The Lord rewards the faithful. Ps. 101: 6.

**SHORTER CATECHISM.** *Quest. 66.* *What is the reason annexed to the fifth commandment?* A. The reason annexed to the fifth commandment, is a promise of long life and prosperity (as far as it shall serve for God's glory and their own good) to all such as keep this commandment.

**LESSON HYMNS.** *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 127, 140, 107, 119.

**DAILY PORTIONS.** *Monday.* David King over all Israel. 2 Sam. 5: 1-12. *Tuesday.* The people's hero. 1 Sam. 18: 5-16. *Wednesday.* Seeking divine guidance. 2 Sam. 5: 17-25. *Thursday.* David's helpers. 1 Chr. 12: 16-22. *Friday.* Israel's king. 1 Chr. 12: 23-38. *Saturday.* Promises for David. Ps. 89: 19-29. *Sabbath.* The Lord our righteousness. Jer. 23: 1-8. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections.*)

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

**INTRODUCTORY.** In the civil war that followed, the two armies met for the first time at Gib'ce-on, midway between Ma-ha-na'im and He'bron, Ab'ner commanding the forces of Israel, and Joab those of Judah. Abner was defeated—loss 360 men, while Joab lost but 20, his brother As'a-hel being among the slain. Ish-bo'sheth foolishly accused Abner of being guilty of treason. Abner deserted Ishbosheth and set to work to make arrangements with David "to bring about all Israel to him." Joab, in avenging the blood of Asahel, foully murdered Abner. In Abner's death Israel lost a great warrior, prince and patriot. Ishbosheth was cruelly murdered by two captains in the army. David ordered them to be executed. This leads us to the study of a new era in the gradual unfolding of the kingdom of God in the history of Israel. Study the 11th and 12th chapters of 1 Chr. Time, 1048 B. C. David 38 years old.

**LESSON PLAN.** I. David Anointed King of Israel. II. Seat of Government Changed. III. Development of the Kingdom.

Civil or domestic wars are to be regretted just as it is a matter of regret when members of the same family quarrel among themselves. There had been many encounters between Israel and Judah. Their representatives came to David at Hebron. It was a large company numbering 339,600. They wished David to become king over all Israel, and gave three reasons for making this request. 1. They were one people.<sup>1</sup> 2. David had done much for them in the past. 3. It was the Lord's will that David should be made king.<sup>2</sup> How delightful it would be if all the people in the world to-day would accept Jesus to be their King. David was to be anointed king that he might feed and rule God's people, as a shepherd feeds his sheep. David was called the shepherd king. Learn the beautiful twenty-third Psalm. Jesus is the good shepherd<sup>3</sup> of all those that love him. The elders of the tribes anointed David king. This was the third time that David was anointed. The people were so pleased that they made it a time of feasting and rejoicing that lasted three days. 5 David made a league, that is he entered into an agreement, with the people that he would give them good laws, and they promised in turn to be loyal and true to him. Jesus gave a new commandment<sup>6</sup> to his disciples, and asked them as he now asks us, to love one another. When David was made king over Israel he left his home in Hebron and went to dwell in Jerusalem. When all God's children will have been gathered into his kingdom of grace in this world, then Jesus will come and take them all to dwell forever with himself<sup>7</sup> in his kingdom of glory; the New Jerusalem. The people around Jerusalem and in it were determined not to let David get possession of the city. But David was too powerful for them. Satan tries to keep boys and girls from Jesus. But Jesus is stronger<sup>8</sup> than satan, and all who run to Jesus will find shelter<sup>9</sup> and protection. The reason that David prospered so well was because God was with him. The secret of every truly happy and prosperous life is the presence of Jesus through his spirit being with them. When other nations saw what a great man David had become they wanted to trade and do business with him. Hi'am king of Tyre was one of these men. The more fully Christians reflect<sup>10</sup> the glory of Christ's character and life, the more will others begin to seek and ask for the paths of life.

<sup>1</sup> 1 Chron. 11: 1. <sup>2</sup> 1 Sam. 16: 13. <sup>3</sup> John 10: 14. <sup>4</sup> 1 Sam. 16: 13; 2 Sam. 5: 4. <sup>5</sup> 1 Chron. 12: 39, 40. <sup>6</sup> John 13: 34. <sup>7</sup> John 14: 2. <sup>8</sup> Heb. 2: 14. <sup>9</sup> Prov. 18: 10. <sup>10</sup> Matt. 5: 16.

**LESSONS.** 1. The importance of brethren dwelling together in unity. 2. Being able to give a reason for our actions. 3. Mindful of past favors and kindness. 4. Believing God's word to be of supreme authority. 5. Ever seeking the abiding presence of Jesus with us.

## LESSON III—July 19th, 1896.

### The Ark brought to Jerusalem. 2 SAM. 6: 1-12.

(Commit to memory verses 11, 12).

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee." Ps. 84: 12.

**PROVE THAT—**We must worship God with reverence. Ps. 89: 7.

**SHORTER CATECHISM.** Quest. 67. *Which is the sixth commandment?* A. The sixth commandment is, Thou shalt not kill. 68. *What is required in the sixth commandment?* A. The sixth commandment requireth all lawful endeavors to preserve our own life, and the life of others.

**LESSON HYMNS.** *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 1, 28, 116, 104.

**DAILY PORTIONS.** *Monday.* The Ark brought to Jerusalem. 2 Sam. 6:1-12. *Tuesday.* The Ark described. Exodus 25:10-22. *Wednesday.* Captured by the enemy. 1 Sam. 4:1-11. *Thursday.* Obedience needful. 1 Chr. 15: 1-3, 11-16. *Friday.* David's psalm of praise. 1 Chr. 16: 7-22. *Saturday.* The psalm continued. 1 Chr. 16: 23-36. *Sabbath.* Acceptable worship. Heb. 12: 18-29. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

#### HELPS IN STUDYING.

**INTRODUCTORY.** At the time David was advanced to the larger kingdom, the Philistines ruled the greater part of the country west of the Jordan. They viewed with alarm "the consolidation of the tribes under one able ruler." They resolved to crush David and prevent his independence. In this they were disappointed, as David proved too powerful a foe. The Philistines were routed and put to flight. It was probably at that time that the brave deed of three of David's heroes was performed, in breaking through the Philistines' garrison at Bethlehem and bringing him water thence (ch. 2: 13, 14; 1 Chron. 11: 17-19). David's next step was the restoration of the worship of Jehovah. To-day's lesson begins the study of the revival of religion. Parallel passages 1 Chron. 13: 15, 16. Time 1042 B. C.

**LESSON PLAN.** I. The Ark Sought After Long Neglect. II. The Ark on the Way. III. The Ark Brought to Zion.

After the war with the Philistines, and David was firmly established as ruler over the kingdom of Israel, the question of the religious condition of his people engaged his attention. He discovered that the people had lapsed into a very low condition in the matter of religion. David called a counsel of the leading men of Israel, numbering 30,000. They considered the question of bringing the ark from Kirjath-Je'arim to Jerusalem. For some 70 years the ark was allowed to remain in obscurity in the house of A-bin'eab. The ark of God occupied a very sacred place in the tabernacle. It was in the "holy of holies."<sup>1</sup> It was a chest<sup>2</sup> constructed by the express command of God; it was made of acacia wood. It is sometimes called the "ark of the testimony,"<sup>3</sup> and sometimes the "ark of the covenant."<sup>4</sup> It was the outward sign and symbol of the Divine presence. The ark being found they placed it "upon a new cart." In this they did wrong, as God had given express command that it should be carried by the priests.<sup>5</sup> It is always wrong<sup>6</sup> to do what God commands us not to do. Two young men of the house of Abinadab accompanied the ark, taking charge of the cart, David and his men were returning home with great delight at the thought of having secured the ark of God, as they were going along the way the oxen stumbled, and one of the young men, Uzzah, thinking the ark was going to be thrown off, put forth his hand

to steady it. To touch the ark was a sin and Uzzah ought to have known the law better. In consequence of his error or mistake God punished him very severely by striking him dead. A warning to all those that speak lightly of God's word, or act in any irreverent manner towards himself, his Sabbaths, and his church. While God loves the sinner he hates sin. Sin always brings its own punishment. "The wages of sin is death." When David saw that Uzzah was dead, and the line of march broken, and his plans upset, he was displeased. How many Christians are prone to murmur and complain when God reproves or chastises them, although all God's chastisements<sup>9</sup> are in love. David was afraid to take the ark any farther, so he had it taken to the house of O-bed-E'dom. Now O-bed-E'dom was glad when the ark was taken into his house. He was a good man, he loved and honored God. The ark in the house of Obed-Edom is a beautiful illustration of true religion or family worship, in the home. Every home that prayerfully and lovingly reads and studies the Bible, God will bless. And the Lord blessed Obed-Edom, and all his household because of the ark of God. When David saw that the Lord blessed the house of Obed-Edom he was very glad to go and take the ark and bring it to mount Zion. It was a great day, and marked the beginning of the revival of religion in Israel.

<sup>1</sup> Heb. 9: 3, 4. <sup>2</sup> Ex. 25: 10. <sup>3</sup> Ex. 40: 26. <sup>4</sup> Heb. 9: 4. <sup>5</sup> Num. 4: 15. <sup>6</sup> 1 Sam. 6: 19. <sup>7</sup> Num. 4: 15. <sup>8</sup> Rom. 6: 23. <sup>9</sup> Heb. 12: 6.

**LESSONS.** 1. Righteousness and truth exalteth a nation. 2. The evil and danger there is in disobeying God's commands. 3. Sin brings its own punishment. 4. True religion in the heart and in the home secures the favor and blessing of heaven.

## LESSON IV—July 26th, 1896.

### God's Promises to David. 2 SAM. 7: 4-16.

(Commit to memory verses 12, 16).

GOLDEN TEXT: "In thee O Lord, do I put my trust." Ps. 71: 1.

PROVE THAT—The Lord's kingdom is everlasting. Ps. 145:13.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 69. *What is forbidden in the sixth commandment? A.* The sixth commandment forbiddeth the taking away of our own life, or the life of our neighbor unjustly, or whatsoever tendeth thereunto.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 129, 179, 91, 167.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* God's promises to David. 2 Sam. 7: 1-16. *Tuesday.* David's response. 2 Sam. 7: 18-29. *Wednesday.* The promise remembered. 1 Chr. 23: 1-10. *Thursday.* The promise fulfilled. 1 Kings 8: 12-21. *Friday.* Precious promises. Ps. 132. *Saturday.* A firm-covenant. Jer. 33: 14-22. *Sabbath.* The established throne. Heb. 1: 1-12. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. After the ark had lodged three months in the house of Obed-Edom it was taken to Jerusalem. On this occasion it was carried, not on "a new cart," but on the shoulders of the levites. David was dressed in a priestly robe called the ephod. The ark was carried along with, song, music and dancing, in which David took a most enthusiastic part. When Michal, David's wife, who had been brought up in a court where heart-religion was little cared for, saw the procession, and what she considered David's undignified conduct, "she despised him in her heart." David was in no way discomfited, but with solemn and befitting ceremonies set the ark up in a tent prepared for it on Zion. It is generally believed that Ps. 24 was written for this festive procession. Parallel passages 1 Chron. 17: 1-27. Place, Jerusalem. Time, 1043 B. C.

LESSON PLAN. I. A Forbidden Purpose. vs. 4-11. II. A Kingdom Promised. vs. 12-16.

David was now king over all Israel. He lived in a beautiful palace made of cedar. When he thought of the tent in which the ark of God was, he concluded it was wrong for him to live in such a fine dwelling and allow the ark to be left in such a frail tent. He resolved to build a temple. He took advice from Na'than<sup>1</sup> the prophet. Na'than encouraged him. But that very night the Lord spoke to Nathan in a vision and told him to go and tell David that he was not to build him a house. The Lord wouldn't allow David to build him a house because he had "been a man of war<sup>2</sup> and shed blood." Nathan was also to remind David how that while God's people wandered in the wilderness 40 years, and during the four hundred years or more since they crossed the Jordan into the promised land, there was no fixed place for the tabernacle to rest. It was well that David should remember, too, how God had taken him from being a poor shepherd<sup>3</sup> boy and raised him up and at length made him ruler and prince over his people Israel. Let us remember Jesus who is our great shepherd. David had prospered and been very successful because the Lord was with him. Only those<sup>4</sup>

are truly successful and prosperous in this world who enjoy a sense of Jesus' abiding presence with them. The Lord assured David through Nathan that his people were soon to become more settled, and as a nation Jerusalem would be their great city. By and by if we are the followers of Jesus he will take us all to dwell forevermore with himself in his kingdom of glory.<sup>5</sup> Nathan reminded David that the time would soon come when he would die and then he would be succeeded by Solomon his son who would build the temple. In verse twelve we find these words, "I will set up thy seed after thee." Now this no doubt refers to Solomon, David's son, but it also refers to another person who came of the seed of David after the flesh, Jesus Christ. The reference in these verses is especially then to Christ who was to come, and indeed who did come<sup>6</sup> into the world in the fulness of time. Christ's kingdom is not an earthly kingdom but a heavenly one, it is not of this world<sup>7</sup> that is, it is not a temporal but a spiritual kingdom. This world<sup>8</sup> shall one day pass away, but Christ's kingdom shall last forever.

<sup>1</sup>vs. 2, 3. <sup>2</sup>1 Chron. 28: 3. <sup>3</sup>1 Sam. 16: 11. <sup>4</sup>Heb. 13: 20. <sup>5</sup>John 14: 2, 3. <sup>6</sup>John 3: 16. <sup>7</sup>John 18: 36. <sup>8</sup>2 Pet. 3: 10.

LESSONS. 1. It is a good thing to have a lofty and noble purpose in life. 2. True prosperity in life is of the Lord. 3. Christ's kingdom is an everlasting kingdom.

## LESSON V—August 2nd, 1896.

### David's Kindness. 2 SAM. 9: 1-13.

(Commit to memory verse 7).

GOLDEN TEXT: "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love." Rom. 12: 10.

PROVE THAT—We should remember the poor. Prov. 19: 17.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 70. *Which is the seventh commandment?* A. The seventh commandment is, Thou shalt not commit adultery. 71. *What is required in the seventh commandment?* A. The seventh commandment requireth the preservation of our own and our neighbor's chastity, in heart, speech, and behaviour.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 82, 133, 135, 41.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* David's kindness. 2 Sam. 9. *Tuesday.* David and Jonathan. 1 Sam. 20: 11-17. *Wednesday.* A sorrowful parting. 1 Sam. 20: 35-42. *Thursday.* A glad welcome. 2 Sam. 19: 24-30. *Friday.* Constancy in friendship. Prov. 27: 1-10. *Saturday.* A blessed memory. Job 29: 1-16. *Sabbath.* The love of Christ. Eph. 3: 8-19. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. The eighth chapter contains a brief history of the wars that raised Israel from an oppressed and despised people, to the exalted position of a powerful and widespread empire. The supremacy of the Philistines was broken. It was probably at that time that several of David's "heroes" won their laurels in war (2 Sam. 23: 8-12). To-day's lesson marks the close of the first part of David's reign. Here David appears a true man and a noble prince.

LESSON PLAN. I. Thoughtful Inquiry. vs. 1-4. II. The Unfortunate Prince. vs. 5-8. III. The Magnanimous King. vs. 9-13.

To-day's lesson presents us with a very beautiful picture of the nobler side of David's character, his care and kindly interest shewn towards an unfortunate prince. The government of Israel was pretty securely established. There had taken place a very marked revival of religion. David begins to think of old foes and old friends. Saul who had been king before David was of course dead. Although he had treated David very unkindly, still David now made enquiry if there was still any of the house of Saul living, if so, he wanted to shew them kindness for the sake of his old, true and faithful friend Jonathan. While Jonathan was the king's son and knew that David was going to be king, still he treated David kindly, and made him promise that he would always shew kindness<sup>1</sup> to his house. David had not forgotten this, and he sought to make it good. David was willing to shew kindness to any of the descendants of Saul. A beautiful illustration of the truth "Love your enemies,<sup>2</sup> do good to them that hate you." Ziba, an old servant of the house of Saul, told David that Jonathan had a son living. He was a cripple,<sup>3</sup> as his nurse let him fall when he was five years of age. David was so delighted when he heard about Jonathan's son that he sent some of his servants with a kind message to him and asked him to come and see him. Mephibosheth, for that was his name, came, but he was very much afraid that David might cause him to be put to death. Instead of that, David received him kindly and cheered him up by saying, "Fear not, for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake." David restored all Saul's old possessions to Mephibosheth. He gave Ziba and his sons, for he had ten sons and twenty servants, the oversight of these possessions and asked them to pay Mephibosheth so much every year. David did more. He made arrangements that Mephibosheth should live as a prince at Jerusalem; indeed he made him welcome as a member of his own family. The lesson story is like a little parable of the spiritual history of every one who is restored to God. He likens Mephibosheth to a prince that was lost, sought after, found, comforted and exalted. Now this is just what Jesus does for every one that becomes a follower of his. Jesus came to seek<sup>4</sup> and find<sup>5</sup> and save us. Then he cheers and encourages us, making life so much pleasanter and happier. By and by he will give us the crown<sup>6</sup> of life, when he takes us to dwell<sup>7</sup> with himself forever in glory.

<sup>1</sup>1 Sam. 20: 14, 15. <sup>2</sup>Matt. 5: 44. <sup>3</sup>2 Sam. 4: 4. <sup>4</sup>Luke 19: 10. <sup>5</sup>Luke 15: 4, 5. <sup>6</sup>Rev. 2: 10. <sup>7</sup>John 14: 2, 3.

LESSONS. 1. Willing to do good unto all men as we have opportunity. 2. To pity the unfortunate. 3. A true friend will be generous. 4. Gratefully remember the mercy of him against whom we have rebelled.



## LESSON VI—August 9th, 1896.

### David's Victories. 2 SAM. 10: 8-19.

(Commit to memory verses 11, 12).

GOLDEN TEXT: "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?" Ps. 27: 1.

PROVE THAT—God's service requires courage. Dent. 31: 6.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 72. *What is forbidden in the seventh commandment?* A. The seventh commandment forbiddeth all unchaste thoughts, words and actions.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 116, 176, 130, 119.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* David's victories. 2 Sam. 10: 8-19. *Tuesday.* A song of victory. Ex. 15: 1-11. *Wednesday.* Divine preservation. 1 Chr. 18: 1-13. *Thursday.* Trust in God. Ps. 144. *Friday.* Deliverance from God. Ps. 18: 32-50. *Saturday.* Praise for deliverance. Ps. 54. *Sabbath.* The soul's warfare. Eph. 6: 10-20. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. Upon hearing of the death of Na'hash, king of Ammon, David remembering past kindness shown to him by Na'hash, sent a kindly message to Ha'nun congratulating him on his accession, and offering sympathy in connection with his father's death. The princes of Ammon evidently despised David, being jealous of his growing power. They persuaded Hanun that David's messengers were simply spies in disguise. After subjecting them to the vilest insults they sent them back. Knowing that David would not allow such an outrage to pass unavenged, they immediately prepared for war. They succeeded in getting the Ar-a-me'ans of Zo'bah, Ke'hob, Ma-ach'ah and Tob to make common cause with them. These realms furnished 33,000 hired soldiers. Parallel passage 1 Chron. 9-19.

LESSON PLAN. I. In Battle Array. vs. 8-11. II. Enemies Vanquished. vs. 12-19.

The treatment received by the messengers of David at the hands of the king of Ammon and his princes is a striking illustration of kindness misinterpreted and ill requited. It reminds one of the treatment Christ received when he came to his own.<sup>1</sup> The children of Ammon were not satisfied with offering insult, but prepared themselves for war with Israel. They hired some 33,000 soldiers from different states of Ar-a-me'a just as San-bal-lat<sup>2</sup> and To-bi'ah did when Ne-he-mi'ah and his noble band of workmen were busy building the walls of Jerusalem<sup>3</sup>; or as the Jews hired Judas for thirty pieces<sup>4</sup> of silver to betray Christ. It is very sad to think what wicked men will do for money. Joab, David's nephew and the chief captain of the army, had to meet these two armies. It was a great undertaking, but he divided his men. He took the best trained soldiers under himself, and went to fight the army of Syria, while he left the rest of his soldiers under the charge of his brother Ab-i-shai', that they might be a check to the army of Ammon. These two brothers agreed to stand firmly by each other, and if need be to help each other. It is a grand thing for christians as brethren<sup>4</sup> to stand nobly by each

other in the cause of truth against the powers of darkness. Joab spoke kindly words of encouragement to all the soldiers. He called upon them to be courageous and to play the part of men. Soon the Syr'i-an army was put to flight before Joab's brave men, and when the army of Ammon saw the Syrians fleeing they, too, became disheartened and fled. Whenever christians take a united stand and make no compromise with evil, then the advocates of unworthy schemes become disheartened and are made weak. The Syrians were very much dissatisfied because of their defeat. They determined to try once more if possible to recover their lost honors. Soldiers were drafted from a number of states. This time David himself took the field against them. The Syrians were defeated with heavy loss. The princes of those states that had formerly owned allegiance to Had-a-re'zer, now sought peace with and acknowledged the supremacy of Israel. As christian soldiers we are fighting under the banner<sup>5</sup> of a greater and more powerful king and captain<sup>6</sup> than David. May the kingdoms of this world soon become the kingdoms<sup>7</sup> of our Lord and his Christ.

<sup>1</sup>John 1: 11. <sup>2</sup>Neh. 4: 1; 6: 13. <sup>3</sup>Matt. 26: 15. <sup>4</sup>Ps. 133: 1. <sup>5</sup>Song of Solomon 2: 4. <sup>6</sup>Heb. 2: 10. <sup>7</sup>Rev. 11: 15.

LESSONS. 1. Beware of requiting evil for kindness. 2. Christians ought to encourage and strengthen the hands of their brethren. 3. The soldiers of Christ that do battle valiantly are certain of victory.

## LESSON VII—August 16th, 1896.

### David's Confession and Forgiveness. Ps. 32 : 1-11.

(Commit to memory verses 1-5).

GOLDEN TEXT: "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."  
Ps. 51: 10.

PROVE THAT—We should confess our sins to God. Ps. 32: 5.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 73. *Which is the eighth commandment?* A. The eighth commandment is, Thou shalt not steal. 74. *What is required in the eighth commandment?* A. The eighth commandment requireth the lawful procuring and furthering the wealth and outward estate of ourselves and others.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 7, 173, 90, 146.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* David's confession and forgiveness. Ps. 32. *Tuesday.* The sinful nature. Rom. 7: 14-25. *Wednesday.* Hope for the penitent. Joel 2: 12-19. *Thursday.* Confession of sin. Ezra 9: 5-15. *Friday.* Prayer for forgiveness. Ps. 51: 7-19. *Saturday.* Cleansing. Ezek. 36: 22-31. *Sabbath.* Praise for pardon. Ps. 103: 1-18. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. The long period of prosperity and unbroken success in the progress and development of the kingdom of Israel was suddenly clouded by the shameful and sinful conduct of their greatly admired and noble king. The story is told in 2 Sam. 11th and 12th chapters; Ps. 51 and 32.

LESSON PLAN. I. True Blessedness Declared. vs. 1-6. II. The Believer's Security. vs. 7-11.

It is very sad to think of such a grand and noble character as David so far forgetting himself as to sin so grievously. However after keeping silent probably for a year or more, David was so unhappy and miserable that he couldn't stand it any longer, and like the prodigal, he came to himself.<sup>1</sup> Sin always makes sinners miserable. David humbly confessed his sin and the Lord forgave him. David's heart was made glad at the thought of the Lord forgiving him, and besides that loading him with so many rich blessings. We are all sinners<sup>2</sup> in the sight of God; but if we confess of sins he will forgive us. When David was living in sin away from God, instead of being like a beautiful fruitful tree planted<sup>3</sup> by the streams of water, he was like a tree whose leaves were withered<sup>4</sup> and fruitless. We should all seek to be like a living fruitful tree, and not like an artificial lifeless Christmas tree. Everyone that truly realizes a sense of God's forgiveness and enjoys the blessings he bestows, will be a child of prayer.<sup>5</sup> No christian can really grow and develop without being often found in the school of prayer with Christ. How natural it is when a thunderstorm comes up for us all, if we are on the highway or in the field, to seek a place of shelter. There are many great and threatening storms that beat on the pathway of the christian, but

it is his sweet privilege always to find a place of shelter<sup>6</sup> and safety in Christ. He not only gives shelter, but right guidance as well. Through the Holy Spirit Christ instructs, teaches and guides<sup>7</sup> his followers in the right paths<sup>8</sup> and in the way of peace. When a ship sets out to cross the sea it is very important to have a captain that understands the sea. It is all-important that we, in sailing over the sea of time, battling with contrary winds and rough storms, should have a guide who is able to bring us safely to the other shore. Christ has given us such a guide in the holy spirit. But some people are very self-willed and obstinate; they are like the horse and the mule that must be tamed and kept in subjection with a bit<sup>9</sup> and bridle. These animals have no understanding, they are not able to reason; but God has made us intelligent beings, capable of reasoning and understanding, knowing<sup>10</sup> and doing his will. We should cheerfully obey<sup>11</sup> and lovingly keep his commandments. Such as do wickedly and live in sin shall multiply sorrows to themselves and perish eternally, while the upright in heart, that is the true christian, has every reason to be glad and to praise God. There is no one so miserable as the sinner, and there is no one that has so much joy and real happiness as the christian.

<sup>1</sup>Luke 15: 17; Ps. 119: 59, 60. <sup>2</sup>Rom. 5: 8. <sup>3</sup>Ps. 1: 3. <sup>4</sup>John 15: 6. <sup>5</sup>Luke 18: 1. <sup>6</sup>Matt. 11: 28-30. <sup>7</sup>John 16: 13. <sup>8</sup>Ps. 107: 7. <sup>9</sup>Jas. 2: 3. <sup>10</sup>John 13: 17. <sup>11</sup>John 14: 15.

LESSONS. 1. Forgiveness is accompanied with manifold blessings. 2. There is no peace to the sinner away from God. 3. Divine guidance leads in the right way. 4. The inviolate security of believers. 5. The manifold sorrows of the wicked.

## LESSON VIII—August 23rd, 1896.

### Absalom's Rebellion. 2 SAM. 15: 1-12.

(Commit to memory verses 1-6).

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Ex. 20: 12.

**PROVE THAT—**Deceit will be punished. Ps. 55: 23.

**SHORTER CATECHISM.** Quest. 75. *What is forbidden in the eighth commandment? A.* The eighth commandment forbiddeth whatsoever doth or may unjustly hinder our own, or our neighbor's wealth or outward estate.

**LESSON HYMNS.** *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 65, 173, 69, 116.

**DAILY PORTIONS.** *Monday.* Absalom's rebellion. 2 Sam. 15: 1-12. *Tuesday.* David's flight. 2 Sam. 15: 13-23. *Wednesday.* David's submission. 2 Sam. 15: 24-31. *Thursday.* Shimei's curse. 2 Sam. 16: 5-14. *Friday.* Absalom's wicked intent. 2 Sam. 17: 1-14. *Saturday.* Causing sorrow to parents. Prov. 19: 20-29. *Sabbath.* Rebellious children. Isa. 1: 1-9. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

**INTRODUCTORY.** The remainder of David's history is mostly a tale of decline. While his empire did not become less in extent, it grew disunited and restless. "David's crime in the matter of Uriah had broken the spell that seemed to be over his life, and since then the unity of the nation, its peace and its hearty boldness in all enterprises were gone, and its good fortune with them." How soon the fruit of David's misconduct was seen reflected in the misconduct of Amnon, his eldest son. Then follows the story of Absalom's hatred and revenge, his flight, and after five years banishment, reconciled and restored to his father's favor. Read chapters 13 to 16. Time, probably 1022 B. C. David 62 or 63 years old.

**LESSON PLAN.** I. The Plot. vs. 1-6. II. The Rebellion. vs. 7-12.

Ingratitude<sup>1</sup> is a very common sin in the world and is strikingly illustrated in the conduct of Absalom. As a young man he was crafty, selfish, covetous,<sup>2</sup> self-willed and unprincipled. He had been the cause of his mother's death. He lived some four or five years in banishment from home. Having been reconciled to his father and granted his liberty again as a son in the home, he began at once to plot and scheme with a view of winning the affections of the people towards himself. As soon he was disloyal and unfaithful.<sup>3</sup> How many profess to love God, and yet by their lives and conduct deny him. Absalom used to arise early in the morning, not to do good but to plan evil things. He would go down the way by the gate leading to the palace, where his father was accustomed to administer justice to the people. Absalom professed to be greatly interested in every person that came there; like many selfish and unscrupulous politicians in the present day. He would ask them the name of their city and their tribe, and then a few questions about their business. He would speak words of flattery to every person, assuring them that their cause was just. The heart of the flatterer<sup>4</sup> is full of deceit and poison.<sup>5</sup> His words clearly implied that under the present form of administration they could not expect to receive justice; but if he were made judge then all would have justice shewn them. This is just what some of the world say of Christ.<sup>6</sup> Absalom stole the hearts, that is he won for himself the affections of the people. This he did through deceit, flattery, and false promises. The ambitious man in whose heart the fear of the Lord is not will adopt any scheme to gain the end he has in view. After four years plotting Absalom asked permission of his father to be allowed to go to Hebron, declaring that it was his desire to offer sacrifice there in thanksgiving to God for bringing him back to Jerusalem and his father's house. In order to carry out his cruel schemes the more perfectly he professes to be very religious. He was professedly religious but at heart he was a real pharisee<sup>7</sup> and a hypocrite. Believing that his son was sincere and being in no way suspicious of him, David cheerfully consented. Absalom's character soon revealed itself. Character cannot be hid. It will either shine<sup>8</sup> or become like miry and marshy<sup>9</sup> places. So secretly did he form his plans that even the two hundred men of rank whom he invited to accompany him knew nothing of his evil designs. We may deceive ourselves and others, but we cannot deceive<sup>10</sup> God. Even David's old familiar<sup>11</sup> friend and counsellor forsook him to follow Absalom. In the sifting and winnowing of character how many professing christians turn back from following Christ<sup>12</sup> to the world.

<sup>1</sup>Luke 17: 17, 18. <sup>2</sup>Ezek. 33: 31. <sup>3</sup>Prov. 25: 19. <sup>4</sup>Prov. 26: 28. <sup>5</sup>Jas. 2: 8. <sup>6</sup>Ps. 2: 2, 3; John 18: 40. <sup>7</sup>Luke 12: 1; Job 36: 13. <sup>8</sup>Matt. 5: 16. <sup>9</sup>Ezek. 47: 11. <sup>10</sup>Gal. 6: 11. <sup>11</sup>Uf. 41: 9. <sup>12</sup>John 6: 66.

**LESSON.** 1. Beware of the spirit of covetousness and unbridled ambition. 2. Evil communications corrupt good manners. 3. The deceitfulness of the human heart leads to untold evils. 4. Beware of forsaking old and tried friends.

## LESSON IX—August 30th, 1896.

### Absalom's Defeat and Death. 2 SAM. 18: 9-17, 32, 33.

(Commit to memory verses 23 and 33).

GOLDEN TEXT: "The Lord knoweth the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish." Ps. 1: 6.

PROVE THAT—Disobedience to parents is surely punished. Prov. 20: 20.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 76. *Which is the ninth commandment?* A. The ninth commandment is, Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor. 77. *What is required in the ninth commandment?* A. The ninth commandment requireth the maintaining and promoting of truth between man and man, and of our own and our neighbor's good name, especially in witness-bearing.

LESSON HYMNS.—*Children's Hymnal*. Nos. 90, 10, 69, 113.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday*. David's anxiety for Absalom. 2 Sam. 18: 1-8. *Tuesday*. Absalom's defeat and death. 2 Sam. 18: 9-17. *Wednesday*. David's grief. 2 Sam. 18: 19-33. *Thursday*. David's return. 2 Sam. 19: 9-15. *Friday*. Destruction of the ungodly. Ps. 52. *Saturday*. Honor to parents. Matt. 15: 1-9. *Sabbath*. Counsel to the young. Prov. 4: 14-27. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. No sooner did David learn of Absalom's rebellion than he resolved to leave Jerusalem. Absalom and his army take possession of the city. A council of war was held. It was decided to pursue and attack David. The two armies were drawn up in battle array "in the forest of Ephraim in Mount Gilead, not far from Mahanaim, where David was." Like Gilead, David divided his army into three parts. He gave special instruction to his three generals, saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man, even with Absalom." Psalms 3 and 4 are supposed to refer to the first evening and following morning of David's flight. Read chapters 16 to 19. Time, shortly after the last lesson.

LESSON PLAN. I. Absalom's Misfortune vs. 9-17. II. David's Lament. vs. 32, 33.

1 "Honor thy father and thy mother" is a commandment binding on all children. To-day's lesson tells of the sad end of a wilful rebellious son. To think of any son rebelling and taking up arms against his father is very sad. Yet every unconverted sinner is living in open rebellion<sup>2</sup> against God. Absalom accompanied by a great army marched towards Mahanaim to meet David and his followers in battle. Absalom, as a proud and self-conceited young man, rode on in advance of his army. He rode the royal mule that belonged to his father. David's army was composed of a body of trained men. They were on the outlook. Absalom unexpectedly came across one wing of David's army. He turned to flee, but not choosing his way well, he was caught either by his neck, or by his flowing hair,<sup>3</sup> in the forked branch of a tree. There he hung, helpless and powerless.<sup>4</sup> One of the men under Joab saw Absalom and told Joab about it. He remembered the king's words, and the charge he gave Joab and the other two generals, Abishai and Ittai, saying, "Beware that none touch the young man Absalom." To obey<sup>5</sup> is better than sacrifice. The man honored the king and respected his word of command. May we honor God

and keep<sup>6</sup> his commandments. Joab himself hastens to the place where Absalom was hanging and with three javelins he cruelly pierces him through the body. Then Joab blew his trumpet, calling upon all his men to retreat, and not push the battle any farther. They buried Absalom in a deep pit in the woods, and raised a great heap of stones over the place.

David was more concerned about the welfare of his wayward, prodigal boy, than he was about the news of victory. His one question was, "Is it well with the young man, Absalom." David loved Absalom, as all true christian parents will love their children. How many a loving christian parent's heart has been almost broken with grief over their wayward rebellious children. How often do christians by their conduct displease God. Oh for more of the spirit of true love and filial obedience. When David learned of Absalom's death, his heart was overwhelmed with grief. There is no grief to a christian parent so great, as the thought of any of their children dying impenitent. Sabbath-school teacher, Is it well with thy soul? Sabbath-school scholar, Is it well with thy soul? Art thou safe in Jesus Christ?<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ex. 20: 12; <sup>2</sup> Rom. 8: 7; <sup>3</sup> 2 Sam. 14: 26; <sup>4</sup> Prov. 16: 18; <sup>5</sup> 1 Sam. 15: 22; <sup>6</sup> Eccl. 12: 13; <sup>7</sup> Luke 19: 41; <sup>8</sup> Rom. 8: 1.

LESSONS. 1. The way of the transgressor is hard. 2. They that sow the wind shall reap the whirlwind. 3. There is no ray of hope to the wicked in their death. 4. There is no safety to the soul out of Christ.

## LESSON X—September 6th, 1896.

### David's Love for God's House. I CHR. 22: 6-16.

(Commit to memory verses 11-13).

GOLDEN TEXT: "Blessed are they that dwell in thy house, they will be still praising thee."  
Ps. 84: 4.

PROVE THAT—We should give freely for God's service. 2 Cor. 9: 7.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 78. *What is forbidden in the ninth commandment? A.*  
The ninth commandment forbiddeth whatsoever is prejudicial to truth or injurious to our own or our neighbor's good name.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 237, 130, 132, 113.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* David's love for God's house. I Chr. 22: 1-10. *Tuesday.* David's love for God's house. I Chr. 22: 11-19. *Wednesday.* A good desire. I Chr. 17: 1-12. *Thursday.* David's thankfulness. I Chr. 17: 16-27. *Friday.* Generous giving. I Chr. 29: 1-9. *Saturday.* The joy of service. I Chr. 29: 10-17. *Sabbath.* Sanctuary songs. Ps. 84. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. David's reign witnessed great and radical changes in the kingdom of Israel. He found it small and divided; he left it powerful and united. He found confusion everywhere; he left it well organized. He found religion at a low ebb and sadly neglected; during his reign there was a healthy and an invigorating revival of religion. There was one work he so earnestly longed and desired to accomplish, but was not permitted, and that was the building of a temple worthy of the religion of the true God. In his old age his heart was still fixed on it. He made great preparations by collecting great quantities of all the materials needed, then he solemnly charged Solomon to accomplish his cherished wish. Read in this connection Ps. 84. Time 1016 B. C. David 70 years old. Solomon about 20 years of age.

LESSON PLAN. I. David's Charge to Solomon. vs. 6-10. II. Conditions of True Prosperity. vs. 11-13. III. Temple Preparations. vs. 14-16.

David, the sweet singer of Israel, had been very anxious to build a beautiful temple worthy of the worship of the true God. But the Lord forbade him to build it, since during his reign many great and bloody battles had been fought. The Lord encouraged David and cheered his heart by telling him that Solomon his son would build the temple. Solomon means a man of peace. His reign in Israel was to be a peaceful reign. It would be a time most suited for building the temple. David, as a wise and goodly parent, strictly charged Solomon to be very careful and thoughtful as to how the work was carried on. He assured him if the work was to prosper he must have God's presence<sup>3</sup> with him; he must have a willing mind<sup>4</sup> to work that he must receive wisdom<sup>5</sup> and understanding from the Lord; he must be obedient to God's commandments<sup>6</sup> and he must also be a man of great courage<sup>7</sup> and fixed determination, and not to let anything discourage or dishearten him. This should be helpful in reminding us of the great spiritual temple that God through his holy spirit is building up in the world and in the hearts of all true believers. It is a work in which we should all be engaged and have a real personal interest. For religion is a personal<sup>8</sup> thing in which every christian shares a

part. Beautiful and costly as was Solomon's temple it is not to be compared with the beauty<sup>9</sup> of the life and character of the christian.

While David was not allowed to build the temple, yet as of many so of him it may be said he did what he could.<sup>10</sup> He made great and costly preparations. He gave very large sums of gold and silver and all kinds of material to be used in building the temple, and also supplied a great band of willing and skilled workmen, like Nehemiah's noble band of workers. We may not have very much wealth and so may not have much money to give to support the church of Christ, but there is something else he prizes more highly, and that is our hearts: the full surrendering<sup>11</sup> of ourselves to him. When David did his part of the work then he called upon Solomon to arise and be doing, that is to begin at once his great life work. There was no time for standing idly by: and so we have no time to spend in idleness. God has no place for idlers in his service. All must be workers.<sup>12</sup> Let us work while it is day, remembering the night cometh when no man shall be able to work. If we cannot do all that we would like to do, let us at least do all that we can, and Christ will bless our labors and reward us richly.

<sup>1</sup> 2 Sam. 7: 2. <sup>2</sup> I Chr. 28: 3. <sup>3</sup> Ex. 33: 15. <sup>4</sup> Neh. 4: 6. <sup>5</sup> Jas. 3: 17. <sup>6</sup> Deut. 1: 1. <sup>7</sup> Josh. 1: 9. <sup>8</sup> John 1: 12. <sup>9</sup> I Cor. 3: 16. <sup>10</sup> Mark 14: 8. <sup>11</sup> Rom. 12: 1; <sup>12</sup> Phil. 1: 21. <sup>13</sup> John 9: 4.

LESSONS. 1. It is a noble thing to be animated with a lofty purpose in life. 2. Great preparations necessary to the accomplishment of great works. 3. God's presence essential to real prosperity. 4. Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation.

## LESSON XI—September 13th, 1896.

### David's Gratitude to God. 2 SAM. 22 : 40-51.

(Commit to memory verses 17-50).

GOLDEN TEXT: "The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer." 2 Sam. 22: 2.

PROVE THAT—All our blessings come from God. Jas. 1: 17.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 79. *Which is the tenth commandment?* A. The tenth commandment is, Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 71, 168, 104, 29.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* A strong deliverer. 2 Sam. 22: 1-18. *Tuesday.* Safe trusting. 2 Sam. 22: 26-39. *Wednesday.* David's gratitude to God. 2 Sam. 22: 40-51. *Thursday.* Joyful trust. Ps. 71: 15-24. *Friday.* Confidence in God. Ps. 23. *Saturday.* Heartfelt thankfulness. Ps. 116. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. This song of thanksgiving is almost identical with the 18th Psalm. Its position in the book of Samuel is "not so much because of its historical value as because it is a national thanksgiving for the founding of that empire by which Israel became verily a theocratic people and the type upon earth of the kingdom of the Messiah." Read chapters 22 and 23; also Psalm 18. Time about 1040 B. C.

LESSON PLAN. I. Enemies Subdued. vs. 40-43. II. Honored and Exalted of the Lord. vs. 44-49. III. Gratitude Expressed. vs. 50, 51.

This song of thanksgiving presents a picture of the sweet singer of Israel as that of a traveller that has journeyed a long way in the valley and then up the rugged steeps of some lofty mountain. Having reached the mountain top he looks back and calmly reviews the pathway by which he was enabled to ascend. How was it accomplished? How were so many formidable enemies by the way met and subdued? It was because the Lord was with him. If the Lord<sup>1</sup> be for us, then he that is for us is greater and mightier than all they that may be against us. Victory was his because the Lord had scattered and subdued his enemies. So complete was the victory that his enemies were driven forth before him as the dust of the earth is driven before a high wind. The petty quarrels and divisions among the twelve tribes were healed, and David was advanced to the very highest position, that of being king or head of all Israel. But we have a greater and more powerful king<sup>2</sup> than David, namely, Jesus. O that the nations of the earth would acknowledge Christ as their king.

The stronger David's kingdom grew the weaker did the power of his enemies become. The more the kingdom of grace<sup>3</sup> grows, and increases in the world and in the hearts of

God's children, the weaker becomes the power of the kingdom of darkness. David rejoiced in the Lord as the living and true God, and not as the dumb idols<sup>4</sup> of the heathen, made of wood and stone. As David thought of what God was to him he uses some very beautiful figures to express his ideas about God; he speaks of him as "my strength,<sup>5</sup> my rock, my fortress, my deliverer, my God; my strength, my buckler, the horn of my salvation, my high tower." What God was to David he is to all his children. David, like every true christian, believed that it was a good thing and a pleasant task to render<sup>6</sup> thanks unto the Lord, and to sing the praises of the Most High. No person can be a christian and not give thanks and sing the praises of God. David speaks of his salvation as a great deliverance. Salvation<sup>7</sup> is the greatest of all works. It is the work of divine grace; it is a gift<sup>8</sup> divinely and personally bestowed. David as king of Israel had been anointed<sup>9</sup> three times. Christ as our Saviour is the anointed of God. He is the seed of David spoken of here, the One in whom all the blessings and promises<sup>10</sup> of salvation are truly realized and fulfilled. The psalmist found his chiefest joy and highest happiness in the Messiah, and so may we.

<sup>1</sup>Rom. 8: 31. <sup>2</sup>1 Tim. 1: 17; 6: 15. <sup>3</sup>Rom. 5: 20, 21. <sup>4</sup>Ps. 115: 3-8. <sup>5</sup>Ps. 18: 1, 2. <sup>6</sup>Ps. 92: 1. <sup>7</sup>Eph. 2: 8. <sup>8</sup>Rom. 6: 23. <sup>9</sup>1 Sam. 16: 13; 2 Sam. 2: 4; 5: 3. <sup>10</sup>Gal. 3: 19.

LESSONS. 1. Thanksgiving is an essential part of a truly religious life. 2. The prosperity of the righteous is of the Lord. 3. Christians ought to be like bright and shining lights in the world.

## LESSON XII—September 20th, 1896.

### Destructive Vices. PROV. 16: 22-33.

(Commit to memory verses 25-27).

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man; but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov. 16: 25.

**PROVE THAT—**We should be careful of our words. Jas. 3: 2.

**SHORTER CATECHISM.** Quest. 81. *What is forbidden in the tenth commandment?* A. The tenth commandment forbiddeth all discontentment w<sup>th</sup> our own estate, envying or grieving at the good of our neighbor, and all inordinate motions and affections to anything that is his.

**LESSON HYMNS.** *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 127, 116, 114, 113.

**DAILY PORTIONS.** *Monday.* Destructive vices. Prov. 16: 22-33. *Tuesday.* Sin and its results. Prov. 6: 6-19. *Wednesday.* Warning from the past. 1 Cor. 10: 1-13. *Thursday.* The way of folly. Prov. 12: 8-15. *Friday.* The right way. Isa. 30: 15-21. *Saturday.* Seeking strength. Ps. 119: 105-120. *Sabbath.* Prayer for purity. Ps. 141. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

**INTRODUCTORY.** There is no special connection between this and the preceding lessons of the quarter. We find, however, many excellent principles set forth by way of encouragement to the upright in life, shewing the necessity of possessing certain qualities of heart and mind in order to realize the grand end and purpose of our lives in this world. There are also lessons of solemn warning to the ungodly, and all that lightly esteem or hold the truth in unrighteousness. There is also inculcated, in this lesson right principles of temperance, or self-control, in all the relationships of life.

**LESSON PLAN.** I. Value of Experimental Religion. vs. 22-26. II. The Ungodly and Righteous Contrasted. vs. 27-33.

It is very important that all the scholars in our Sabbath-schools as well as their teachers should form temperate habits. The lesson for to-day is on temperance. Temperance has a very wide meaning. It means that we should be temperate in what we drink and eat, in our words, and manner<sup>1</sup> of life. We should seek diligently to know what is right, and do it. Then it will be like a beautiful and fresh stream of water, refreshing and giving us new life day by day. Jesus is the water<sup>2</sup> of life to the souls of all his true followers. But the wayward and self-willed do not receive<sup>3</sup> the word of truth with profit. When the heart is pure, then the words that we speak will be pure. "For out of the heart are the issues of life." The heart is something like the main-spring of a watch, it is the regulator. If the heart is right, all will be well, but if the heart is bad, then our words and our lives will be bad too. Honey when it is pressed out of the comb is sweet and pleasant to eat. But to those that truly love Jesus, his word is sweeter and pleasanter<sup>4</sup> to them than any honey can be. It is a "lamp<sup>5</sup> unto their feet and a light unto their path." There are two ways set before us: the one is the broad way, the other is the narrow way. Many like the broad<sup>6</sup> way because they think it is the easy way and full

of pleasures. They forget, however, that the end of the broad way is everlasting death.<sup>7</sup> Those that walk on the broad way are called by four different names in our lesson: (1) Ungodly; (2) The froward; (3) Whisperers; (4) The violent. They are all bad. They seem to delight in getting others into trouble and in saying unkind things. The tongue<sup>8</sup> is only a little organ and yet it does a great deal of mischief. It is like a little match, when lighted it kindles a great fire and destroys much goods. It is beautiful to see the gray locks of an old christian, who for many years has been growing in the christian life. He is not one that gets angry quickly, but is gentle and loving. As a rule it is those whose lives have been temperate that live the longest. Certain it is that they are the ones that enjoy the greatest real happiness, and that which gives them such joy and happiness is the presence<sup>9</sup> of Jesus through his spirit abiding in them and with them. Young men glory<sup>10</sup> in their strength, but the beauty of old men is the gray head. We should honor and respect old age. It is God that overrules all the events of life. He feeds the birds<sup>11</sup> of the air, and clothes the valley with flowers. He watches over all his children with a father's care and overrules all the events of life for their good.

<sup>1</sup>1 Cor. 10: 31, <sup>2</sup>John 4: 10, 14. <sup>3</sup>1 Cor. 2: 14. <sup>4</sup>Ps. 19: 10. <sup>5</sup>Ps. 119: 105. <sup>6</sup>Matt. 7: 13, 14; <sup>7</sup>Rom. 6: 23. <sup>8</sup>Jas. 3: 6. <sup>9</sup>John 15: 4. <sup>10</sup>Prov. 20: 29. <sup>11</sup>Matt. 6: 26, 28.

**LESSONS.** 1. True knowledge leads to greater usefulness. 2. The wages of sin is death. 3. The beauty of self-control.

## LESSON XIII—September 27th, 1896.

### REVIEW.

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runneth into it and is safe. Prov. 18: 10.

**PROVE THAT—**The Lord rules over all. Ps. 103: 19.

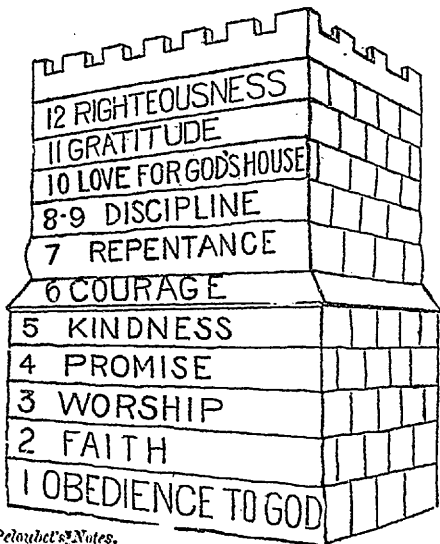
**SHORTER-CATECHISM.** Review Questions 65-81.

**LESSON HYMNS.** *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 127, 173, 219, 116.

**DAILY PORTIONS.** *Monday.* David king over all Israel. 2 Sam. 5: 1-12. *Tuesday.* The ark brought to Jerusalem. 2 Sam. 6: 1-12. *Wednesday.* David's kindness. 2 Sam. 9. *Thursday.* David's confession and forgiveness. Ps. 32. *Friday.* Absalom's defeat and death. 2 Sam. 18: 9-27, 32, 33. *Saturday.* David's love for God's house. 1 Chr. 22: 6-16. *Sabbath.* David's gratitude to God. 2 Sam. 22: 40-51. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### REVIEW CHART—THIRD QUARTER

LESSON.	TITLE.	GOLDEN TEXT.	LESSON PLAN.	TEACHINGS.
I. 2 Sam. 2: 1-11	D. K. J.	The Lord.....	D. G.—D. A. K. J.— D. R. H.	The Lord knows our hearts.
II. 2 Sam. 5: 1-12	D. K. A. I.	David went on.....	D. A. K. I.—S. G. C.— D. K.	The Lord rewards the faithful.
III. 2 Sam. 6: 1-12	A. B. J.	O Lord of hosts.....	A. S. A. I. N.—A. W.— A. B. Z.	Worship with reverence.
IV. 2 Sam. 7: 4-10	G. P. D.	In thee.....	F. P.—K. P.	Christ's kingdom is everlasting.
V. 2 Sam. 9: 1-13	D. K.	Be kindly.....	T. I.—U. P.—M. K.	Remember the poor.
VI. 2 Sam. 10: 8-19	D. V.	The Lord is.....	B. A.—E. V.	God's service requires courage.
VII. Ps. 32: 1-11	D. C. F.	Create in me.....	B. D.—B. S.	Confess sin to God.
VIII. 2 Sam. 15: 1-12	A. R.	Honor thy.....	P.—R.	Deceit will be punished.
IX. 2 Sam. 18: 9-17, 32, 33	A. D. D.	The Lord knoweth.....	A. M.—D. I.	God punishes undutiful children.
X. 1 Chr. 22: 6-16	D. L. G. H.	Blessed are they.....	D. C. S.—C. T. P.— T. P.	Give freely for God's service.
XI. 2 Sam. 22: 40-51	D. G. G.	The Lord is.....	E. S.—H. E. L.— G. E.	All blessings are from God.
XII. Prov. 16: 22-33	D. V.	There is a way.....	V. E. R.—U. R. C.	Be careful what you say.



—Peloubet's Notes.

The lessons of the Third Quarter narrate David's history as a king, and shew the elements that made him great. The Golden Text suggests A TOWER, and we take the tower of David as our picture. What are the traits of character that are taught in these lessons?





**LESSON I—July 5th, 1896.**

**David King of Judah. 2 SAM. 2: I-II.**

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

1—In what way did the Lord encourage David? (5)

2—How many times was David anointed? (5)

(OVER.)

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**LESSON II—July 12th, 1896.**

**David King over all Israel. 2 SAM. 5: I-12.**

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

1—State the three reasons that the representatives of Israel gave for coming to David. (6)

2—What did David make with the people? (3)

(OVER.)

3—To whom did the men of Jabesh-Gilead show kindness? (5)

4—What kind message did David send to the men of Jabesh-Gilead? (5)

5—Where and by whom was Ishbosheth made king? (5)

Name.....

3—On what three different occasions was David anointed? (5)

4—What was the secret of David's prosperity? (6)

5—What foreign king assisted David? (5)

Name.....

**LESSON III—July 19th, 1896.**

**The Ark brought to Jerusalem. 2 SAM. 6: 1-12.**

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

1—Where did David find the ark, and how long had it been there? (5)

2—Why was it wrong to carry the ark on a cart? (5)

(OVER.)

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**LESSON IV—July 26th, 1896.**

**God's Promises to David. 2 SAM. 7: 4-16.**

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

1—How did the Lord correct Nathan's mistake? (5)

2—Why did the Lord forbid David to build him a house? (4)

(OVER.)

3—By what other names was the ark of God known? (5)

4—Why was Uzzah's conduct inexcusable? (5)

5—What must be true of us, if we are to receive the blessing of God? (5)

Name.....

3—What was the secret of David's prosperity? (6)

4—In v. 12 to whom do the words "Thy seed after thee" refer? (5)

5—What kind of a kingdom is Christ's kingdom? (5)

Name.....

**LESSON V—August 2nd, 1896.**  
**David's Kindness. 2 SAM. 9: 1-13.**

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

1—Why was David so desirous of shewing kindness to any of the house of Saul? (5)

2—What kind of a man was Ziba? (5)

(OVER.)

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**LESSON VI—August 9th, 1896.**  
**David's Victories. 2 SAM. 10: 8-19.**

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

1—What positions did the two confederate armies occupy on the field of battle? (5)

2—What mutual agreement did Joab and his brother make? (5)

3—How did David shew his generosity to Mephibosheth? (5)

4—How many sons and servants did Ziba have? (5).

5—In what respect did David shew special kindness to Mephibosheth? (5)

Name.....

3—How did Joab address his men? (5)

4—Which army was victorious? (5)

5—What was the loss of the Syrian army in the second battle? (5)

Name.....

**LESSON VII—August 16, 1896.**  
**David's Confession and Forgiveness. Ps. 32: 1-11.**

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

1. By what three terms did David designate sin? (5)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What was David's state so long as he remained impenitent? (5)

(OVER.)

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**LESSON VIII—August 23, 1896.**  
**Absalom's Rebellion. 2 SAM. 15: 1-12.**

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

1. How did Absalom manifest the spirit of ingratitude? (6)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What measures did Absalom adopt in order to steal the affections of the people? (6)

(OVER.)

3. Who alone is able to forgive sin? (5)

4. How did David express his strong confidence in God? (5)

5. In what respect does the condition of the wicked differ from that of those that trust in the Lord? (5)

Name.....

3. What reason did Absalom give his father for wishing to go to Hebron? (4)

4. What was Absalom's real design? (4)

5. What familiar friend forsook David? (5)

Name.....



**LESSON IX—August 30th, 1896.**

**Absalom's Defeat and Death.** 2 SAM. 18 : 9-17 ; 32, 33.

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**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

- 1.—What misfortune befel Absalom while fleeing? (5)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2.—What special charge did David give his three generals? (5)

(OVER.)

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**LESSON X—September 6th, 1896.**

**David's Love for God's House.** 1 CHR. 22 : 6-16.

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**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

- 1.—Why was David denied the privilege of building the temple? (4)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2.—What blessing did he receive for his pious intentions? (5)

(OVER.)

3.—What was the manner of burial given Absalom? (5)

4.—What was the special burden of David's heart? (5)

5.—How did David manifest his sorrow? (5)

Name.....

3.—What five things are essential to the accomplishment of any noble work? (6)

4.—To what extent did David shew his interest in the temple preparations? (6)

5.—What did David call upon Solomon to do? (4)

Name.....

(SS)

**LESSON XI—September 13th, 1896.**

**David's Gratitude to God. 2 SAM. 22 : 40-51.**

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

1.—What is David represented as doing to his enemies? (5)

2.—As David's kingdom grew in power what became of his enemies? (5)

(OVER.)

**LESSON XII—September 20th, 1896.**

**Destructive Vices. PROV. 16 : 22-33.**

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.**

1.—What does the heart of the wise accomplish for him? (5)

2.—What are the two ways, and the end of each? (5)

(OVER.)

3.—What are some of the figures David uses in speaking of the Lord? (5)

4.—What did David say he was going to do among the heathen? (5)

5.—To whom do the words "his seed" specially refer? (5)

Name.....

3.—By what four names are the wicked designated? (5)

4.—Is the glory of the aged and the young man the same? (5)

5.—What is true of all the events of life? (5)

Name.....

LESSON XIII—September 27th, 1896.

REVIEW.

*(The maximum value of each correct answer is 4).*

- 1—Over what portion of Israel was David first anointed king?
- 2—Who reigned over the rest of Israel?
- 3—For what did David commend the men of Jabesh-Gilead?
- 4—What reasons did the tribes give for accepting David as their king?
- 5—What foreign king assisted David in building his palace?
- 6—Why was Uzzah struck dead?
- 7—In whose house was the ark then left?
- 8—Why was not David permitted to build the temple?
- 9—What promise was given regarding his house and kingdom?
- 10—What kindness did David shew to Mephibosheth?
- 11—How did Joab encourage his brother at the battle against the Syrians and Ammonites?
- 12—Whom does the Psalmist declare to be “blessed”?

- 13—What is meant by “ I will guide thee with mine eye ” ?
- 14—What blessing is promised to him “ that trusteth in the Lord ” ?
- 15—How did Absalom “ steal the hearts of the men of Israel ” ?
- 16—What reason did he give the king for wishing to go to Hebron ?
- 17—Describe the death of Absalom.
- 18—Give David’s lament for Absalom.
- 19—What preparation did David make for the building of the temple ?
- 20—What charge did he give to Solomon ?
- 21—Why does David call God his “ Rock ” ?
- 22—To whom did David ascribe all the glory of his victories ?
- 23—To what are pleasant words compared ?
- 24—What is said of the “ hoary head ” ?
- 25—How is self-control commended ?

Name.....

EXCUSE FOR ABSENCE.

Dear Teacher,—Please excuse my absence from Sabbath School to-day, I cannot come because I have read the "Daily Portions" and answered the questions as well as I could. I have committed to memory verses in addition to the Golden Text, and Questions in the Catechism and have recited them to I was at church I send with this my Weekly Offering of cents.

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