

## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

**Lesson in the International Series**  
for August 2, 1903—Samuel  
Anoints David.

## THE LESSON TEXT.

(1 Sam. 16:1-13.)

4 And Samuel did that which the Lord spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the sides of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably?

5 And he said, Peaceably; I am come to sacrifice unto the Lord; sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and caused them to the sacrifice.

6 And it came to pass, when they were gone, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.

7 But the Lord said unto Samuel, 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.

8 Then Jesse called up Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the Lord chosen this.

9 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, Neither hath the Lord chosen this.

10 Again Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The Lord hath not chosen these.

11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are these all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him; for we will not sit down till he come hither.

12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and without a beautiful countenance, and gilty to look to. And the Lord said, Arise, anoint him; for this is he.

13 Then 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 forward. So Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

**GOLDEN TEXT.—Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.—1 Sam. 16:7.**

**OUTLINE OF SCRIPTURE SECTION**

Saul's anointing . . . 1 Sam. 16:1-4

The sacrifice . . . . . 1 Sam. 16:4-5

The inspection . . . . . 1 Sam. 16:6-10

The anointing . . . . . 1 Sam. 16:11-12

David and Saul . . . . . 1 Sam. 16:13

David—Probably about 1600 B. C.

PLACE—Ramah, Bethlehem and Gil-

SEEN NOTES AND COMMENTS.

We think none the less of Samuel for taking to heart so keenly the disappointing failure of Saul. He mourned for him as for an only son. His grief seemed to cut the nerve of his public ambition. How long he did nothing about it, we do not know. It may have been years or only a few months.

But he was finally aroused to take action for his son's future. The dynasty of Saul must soon end. Who should succeed him? Twelve miles to the south of Bethlehem lay the famous town of Bethlehem, the home of Jesus, the grandson of Ruth and Boaz. His fine family of eight stalwarts was doubtless known to Samuel, whose judicial journeys for many years had given him a wide acquaintance. One morning, under divine impulsion, the old prophet took his own horn of sacred oil and walked to Bethlehem.

His arrival causes surprise and fear at Bethlehem. Apparently his visits had been infrequent in his later years, and only some momentous errand could have drawn him from his quiet retirement at Ramah. The people tremble as they think how the old Puritan prophet treated his enemies, and half suspecting some unpunished criminal among their number, they ask: "Comest thou peaceably?"

Quickly he allays their fear and quietes all suspicion; announces laconically his purpose to sacrifice, and bids them prepare themselves and join him. "Sanctify yourselves;" "Wash your persons and put on clean clothing."—Geikie.

The sacrificial rite having been attended to, Samuel now devotes himself to the business which was the real cause of his coming. He goes to Jesse's house and interviews his sons. Each youth is measured by the lofty standard of the divine ideal for the kingship. Eliab, the eldest, is in the full strength of robust manhood. At first thought the prophet is inclined to accept him and look no further. But his divinely-inspired second thought warns him not to trust too much in outward appearance. The memory of the handsome young Saul haunts him. He turns away. He scrutinizes the faces of six more of Jesse's sons in turn, searching for singleness in character. None of them meets Jehovah's requirements.

"Goodly to look upon!" Something in David's face and manner betokens the boy's developing possibilities. Being youthful and untrained, he was the more susceptible to Samuel's influence. Early youth is the time for mounting for one's life mission. "Then Samuel . . . . anointed him in the midst of his brethren." The ceremony was not understood by the brothers. They little dreamed the office intended was the kingship. Probably the prophet revealed his full purpose to David; and what a deepening effect it must have had upon the young man's life!

A strange malady had attacked the king—species of insanity or perhaps only violent despondency, induced by his growing evil temper. This distemper was found to yield to the soothing effect of music, and the young shepherd musician from Bethlehem was brought to court to charm into good-humored sanity the king whose successor he was destined to be. Here he soon became a favorite, and in due time was made the king's armor-bearer.

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## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The number of forest reservations in the United States is now 54, with a total area of 60,000,000 acres.

The forest reserves of the United States now aggregate an area almost twice that of the state of Pennsylvania.

Sunburn and sun blindness are due to the sun, and ultra-violet rays of the sun when the skin is once tanned it is protected against their effect.

The Cathedral of Chartres, in France, is said to contain the most beautiful and the best-preserved twelfth-century windows in the world. They date from about 1145.

Seven valuable cabinet pictures of the Dutch school have been relegated to the British National gallery by the late Sir James Carnegie. Six of these works were purchased by him out of the Denselbach collection.

Census returns give 5,354 children under 10 years of age who are employed in making shirts for men in the United States. More than 3,000 of these are employed in factories.

There are 1,145 employed in making women's shirts and similar garments.

Nearly 8,000 are in the stocking factories, and over 3,000 in the miscellaneous employments connected with the production of ready-made attire.

A curious clock is described as having been recently put into commission in a small western town. The machinery, which is nothing but a face, hand and lever, is connected with a geyser, which shoots a column of hot water every 22 seconds. This spouting never varies to the tenth of a second. Every time the water spouts up it strikes the lever and moves the hands forward 12 seconds.

The wedding of Robert Judy and Mrs. Elizabeth Bradley, of Marysville, the other day was unique in some ways. The groom, a widower of 74 winters, has five children, one boy and four girls. The bride, a widow of 72 summers, also has five children, four boys and one girl. Mrs. Bradley was a boarding-house keeper and eight months dragged by before she crowned the wooing of the ardent lover and his blushing sweet-heart promised to be his. Each is wealthy and they have made a contract that each shall retain his or her belongings and that each shall provide one-half of the cost of living.

And then it was found that the human beings in the park would be better off still; for big black and brown bears, and now and then a grizzly, having acquired a taste for white man's food, began to break into the camps and even the hotels at night to steal ham, bread, cake and anything else that was particularly tempting.

The very animals that became the most friendly were the ones that did the most harm. There were three especially—two black bears and one brown bear—that became so familiar and loving that they acted as if they were paying board at one of the hotels.

They would hang around the kitchen and the rear veranda and run after the guests, begging for something nice to eat till they had made nuisances of themselves. At last, after they had smashed into a hotel pantry, and frightened women and children almost to death, the officials were forced to shoot them.

Now the superintendent of the park has issued a warning. He announces that any one who feeds or pets the wild bears will be punished.

He says that they are perfectly harmless as long as they are kept in a perfectly wild state and left alone, but when persons trifle with them they lose all fear of human beings and proceed to do much damage to property.

And every now and then they hurt somebody who thinks that, because they have become familiar, they are not dangerous any more.

**INDUSTRIAL NEWS.**

The "big" steel seems to be

the name of the new steel.

People are now beginning to use

it in making steel.

**REASON FOR THANKSGIVING.**

"For gracious skies, whatever that I hit my shins against, coming through the parlor in the dark!"

"Oh, I guess that was the easy chair."

"Well, if that's the easy chair, I don't want to run in against the hard one!"—Yonkers Statesman.

**WHERE IT COMES FROM.**

"Where does the electricity come from that lights our houses?" asked a teacher in an up-town school the other day.

"Out of the wall," replied a tiny girl who lived in an apartment house. "The janitor goes and takes it out."

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**COULD NOT BE NAMED.**

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