

# INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

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LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 21

## THE DEATH OF ELI AND HIS SONS.

LESSON TEXT—1 Samuel 41-13. GOLDEN TEXT—Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deluding your own selves.—James 1:22 R. V.

The Philistines in the days of Eli overran Israel pretty much at will. All Israel, God's people, soon knew that God was speaking through this new prophet.

I. No Help at Ebenezer, vv. 1, 2. Ebenezer was that place where Samuel later set up the stones of commemoration (1 Samuel 7:12). Here the aggressive Philistines overcame and put to rout the Israelites. Israel had sinned and needed correction (chapter 7:3; Ps. 106:40, 41). When God's people neglect him they weaken themselves and easily become the prey of their enemies. Full often the church of today stands defeated and disgraced, nay even turns its back to the enemy, because it harbors sin and sinners in its ranks (Josh. 7:12).

II. Seeking Help, vv. 3-9. If Israel really desired to know the cause of their discomfiture they did not need to go far to seek it. The trouble was that they were not willing to see and own it (1 Cor. 11:31). The reasoning upon the part of these elders seems to be, "Why have we, Israelites, been smitten by these Philistines who are not God's chosen people?" It was absurd and unjust for them to have to suffer. We hear this same sort of reasoning today, whereas God would have us probe deeper and search our hearts, for if we regard iniquity in our hearts the Lord will not hear us. At Shiloh, Eli is caring for the ark, and with the fatalism and superstition that will govern the ungodly, Israel sends for it "that it may save us" (v. 3). The ark contained the tables of the law and was the symbol of the presence of God (Ex. 25:10-22). Their trust was in the ark and not in the God of the ark. Such is ever the danger of formalism in religion. To carry the ark about Jericho trusting in Jehovah, was quite different from harboring the sons of Eli, yet thinking that God could not let the ark be captured. The churches of our land are the saving salt, but "if the salt hath lost its savour," if Hophni and Phinehas bear the ark, nothing but defeat and disgrace can be expected, though the enemy may tremble (v. 8). The Philistines were strong enough to smite because of the weakness of Israel. They recognized the shouts and remembered the mighty deeds of Jehovah, which exploits would have been repeated had Israel truly turned to God. There was good reason for the Philistines to fear. But God was not on the side of Israel at that time. The Philistines began to exhort themselves. Their call (v. 9) was a good one and was used later by Paul (1 Cor. 16:13). For them not to do anything was to be captured by their former slaves. If they fought, they could but die.

III. The Lost Battle, vv. 10-11. God would not succor his chosen people, nor defend the symbols of religion when the spirit and heart of that religion had departed (Ps. 78:56-64). The two reprobate sons of Eli were slain as a punishment for their sins and in fulfillment of the word of God (chapter 2:12; 3:13, 14). Their punishment came in connection with the same holy service they had defiled.

IV. The Death of Eli, vv. 12-13. The aged Eli, now ninety-eight years old, was anxiously awaiting news of the battle, "for his heart trembled for the ark of God." This anxiety was quite unnecessary (v. 13). God can take care of his ark. Eli had reason, however, to tremble for Israel and his wicked sons. He is an illustration of those indulgent parents who refuse to use discipline in the care of their children. The ark did not return to Shiloh. After its various vicissitudes it found an abiding place in the house of Abinadab, whose son Eleazar was sanctified to take charge of it. Later it was taken to Jerusalem, and in the meantime Shiloh passed into oblivion. The Golden Text. That we learn to do by doing is a fundamental principle in pedagogy. Mere human words do not change character. Youth does not acquire purity of character by listening to beautiful statements about the virtues. Religion is not a last resource. It must be practiced in youth if it is to give strength, courage and comfort in old age. It is not a matter of creed and formula but a life; it is not a convenience but a course of action that governs all of life. It is not the turning in life's testing times, to those forms from which all life has departed. Parents today seem to be lax in discipline. Too often it is the child that brings up the parent. We need to accustom the child to virtue and obedience, to teach him truth while at the knee, that when "he is old he may not depart" therefrom. While some children of good parents go astray yet this is not the rule. A true Christian atmosphere and spirit of service in the home, the Sunday school and the church are the greatest possible safeguards for the young.

## Song and Story.....

With a Smile,  
If you're in a world of trouble,  
With a hundred little woes,  
Short on joy and full of sadness,  
All your friends are slinking foes;  
You are burdened with a soreness  
Of the heart that makes it smile  
With that lonesome sickly feeling,  
Try the glad game for awhile.

When the world is hard and heedless,  
Of its smiles to others lent,  
And you owe your bank a million,  
Though you don't own a cent;  
Still you know that you are worthy  
Of ten times the gold you owe,  
Face the teller with the smile game,  
Watch it on his features grow.

Would you cross the happy threshold  
Of prosperity and peace,  
Shun the pathway of the molder—  
Till your pleasures, aye increase.  
Lift your face and set it beaming  
Like a smiling goldenrod;  
Watch the joy game lead you heavenward  
Through prosperity to God.

The new minister in a Georgia church was delivering his first sermon and his prayer served to cover the whole category of human wants. After the services one of the deacons asked the old darkey janitor, who had been a critical listener, what he thought of the new minister. "Don't you think he offers a good prayer, Joe?"

"Ah mos' suttainly does, Boss. Why, dat man axed de Lord fo' things dat de odder preacher didn't eben know He had."

When Esther Cleveland was little, her father once telephoned from Chicago to the White House and asked Mrs. Cleveland to bring the child to the phone. Lifting the little one up to the instrument, Mrs. Cleveland watched her expression change from bewilderment to wonder and then to fear. It was surely her father's voice, yet she looked at the telephone incredulously. After examining the tiny hole in the receiver she suddenly burst into tears. "Oh, Mamma," she sobbed, "how can we ever get papa out of that little hole?"

One day there was a great commotion at the pearly gates. Good St. Peter went to investigate and found George Washington being ushered in with great ceremony and acclamation. He led him to a seat at the right hand of the Lord. With similar ceremony Abraham Lincoln was admitted, some time afterward, and given a seat at the left of the Lord.

One day, a long time afterward an unusual commotion occurred at the heavenly portal. St. Peter hurried thither to ascertain the cause. Roosevelt was entering amid loud applause.

St. Peter received him, looked confusedly around for an instant and finally said, "Well, Lord, I guess you'll have to give up your seat."

So Very Explicit.  
"Can you tell me where Mr. Schwackelhammer, the preacher resides?" inquired a stranger of an old German settler in one of the western states. "Yaw," said he. "You must walk de road up to de creek and durn de pritch over de shtream. Den you go on dill you gum to a road mit voots around a schollhouse; put yu don't take dat road. Vell, den you go on dill you meet a pig parn, shingled mit shtraw. Den you durn the road around de field and go on till you gum to a pig red house and speckled ober mit white and de garret up stairs. Vell, dat is mine broder Hans house. Den you durn dat house around deparn, and you see a road dat goes up into devoods. Den you don't dake dat road too. Den you go straight on and de first house you meet is a haystack and de next is a barrack. Vell, he don't lif dere. Den you will git farder and you see a house on to the hill about a mile and go in dere and ax de ole woman and she will tell you pedder as I can."

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## THE LATEST FASHIONS.

One's winter clothes are apt to seem a bit shabby at this season, when social doings make greatest demand upon all smart attire, yet it seems an extravagance to buy new things that may look out of date by spring.

Keeping informed of the general trend of advanced fashions, and buying conservatively, it is quite possible to do exceptionally well with early shopping, giving a smart appearance now and ready for the sudden change to warmer weather which catches so many people in shabby left-overs.

Evening gowns and many coats show a high waist line, bodices fit close about the bust, skirts are very wide and circular, or of modest width with pleats and panel effects to suggest long lines. Nothing is good style that is unbecoming to the weather, one has to get a little used to new lines to like them.

Trig Outlines.  
All fashion designers seem to produce models for slender, willowy figures, and as considerable number of attractive women can not qualify in this class it is necessary to secure trig outlines by careful attention to the garments worn beneath the dress. If these are up-to-date in shape and style and carefully fitted to suit each individual, even a woman of considerable development can attain the correct fashionable outline.

Materials.  
In wools for suits, coat dresses and separate skirts, covers in their characteristic tans and putty colorings; serges of fine weaves especially the types known as Gabardines, broadcloths, and a few novelty weaves are all a safe choice. Checks and plaids especially the small green and blue styles will be smartly worn and are especially youthful in effect.

Satins and failles in both plain and printed styles promise excellent vogue, and the all satin waist is certainly gaining considerably with the smartly attired. Taffetas of soft finish are first favorites for dressy day or evening gowns, and for use in combination with a number of grenadine weaves that assume a very lacey look made up over colored linings.



McCall Designs  
Cotton and Silk Mixtures.

Cotton and silk mixtures are more smartly used in advance showings than ever before, for both waists and dresses. Many of these make the prettiest of dance frocks and close resemble imported gowns of white chiffon printed with tiny flowers, with straight skirts filled in at the raised waist line, the rather tight girldie bodice made elaborate with fancy patterns done in half inch quilled ribbon, and narrow lace. The same sort of trimming ornaments the skirt from foot to knee height. It sounds overdone to trim a figured material in this fashion, but the result is most attractive, suggesting a Watteau Shepherdess.

Old Trimmings Revived.  
Tom Thumb fringes, satin cordings, bindings and pipings, braids on a Galoon order, and every quirk possible to be given to self-trimmings of the dress material are seen in fashionable new model gowns. Tucks and folds that produce a tucked effect on skirts, are reckoned very smart, especially on taffeta and linen frocks.

A Vassar Get-Up.  
A "Vassar" rig in rose color and gray, has the skirt of fine gray serge, and the coat of rose color rough woollen material, soft and rather shaggy in weave, closes with gray buttons and has the collar and cuffs of the gray serge.

Another advanced model suit is developed in natural pongee silk of heavy quality. The coat ending just at the hip, has a yoke effect, and below this the material is laid in inch wide side pleats, held in place by a loosely-adjusted belt of the material. The skirt has a tunic effect at the hips of matching side pleats, and front and back finished panel fashion.

## COURT NEWS

### Real Estate Transfers.

Lucinda Graves to William Brandt, Meyersdale, \$800.  
Edward Rodabaugh to John Smith, Meyersdale, \$700.  
Sylvester Baer to Milton Meyers, Brothersvalley township, \$7,000.  
Viola Gindlesperger to Wm. Bowman, Hooversville, \$500.  
Jesse Reamer to Samuel Kendall, Elk Lick township, \$150.  
William Trimpey's executor to Peter Kreger, Upper Turkeyfoot township, \$8,500.  
Jacob Kaltenbaugh to Gloss Appel, Paint township, \$800.  
J. B. Barclay to E. H. Horner, Somerset township, \$1.  
J. R. Shank to A. E. Growall, Rockwood, \$500.  
William Barnhart's heirs to Albert Christner, Summit township, \$1,600.  
A. B. Clark to Daniel Shaffer, Hooversville, \$550.  
John Morley to Lewis Barkebile, Shade township, \$1,500.  
Margaret Thomas to Herman Bauer, Somerset township, \$1.  
Robert Meyers to Anna Cable, Brothersvalley township, \$3,500.  
Sadie Stover to William Koontz, Berlin, \$1,000.  
David Ling to Isaac Mangus, Shade township, \$800.  
Thomas Thrasher to Samuel Downs, Confluence, \$6,000.  
George Zimmerman to Henry Landis, Shade township, \$300.  
Boswell Improvement Co. to Cesare Spino, Boswell, \$350.  
Louis Daluca to Marianna Spino, Boswell, \$2,500.

### CONCERNING DISEASE GERMS.

Timely Talks on Health and Hygiene By Dr. Dixon.

There are many things in the world which our five senses unaided would never apprise us of. There are sounds too delicate for the ear to hear, odors which we cannot smell, flavors which we fail to recognize, movements and vibrations to which our nerve centres do not respond and innumerable objects in nature which we cannot see.

Even the bravest man shrinks from danger which is unseen. The deadliest enemies of mankind are absolutely invisible to the naked eye. Tuberculosis, cholera, typhoid fever, the plague, yellow fever and many other of the diseases which claim a greater number of lives than have ever been sacrificed in war are caused by those invisible enemies which scientists call bacteria or micro-organisms. Commonly these are referred to as disease germs.

Bacteria are minute organisms the largest of which are only some ten or twelve thousandths of an inch in length. Not all of the bacteria are harmful, but those which are responsible for disease when introduced into the human or animal economy multiply with startling rapidity and give off poisons which cause sickness and death. Millions of these organisms could be contained in a single drop of water.

There are three very common ways in which disease germs are carried from person to person and introduced into the system—fingers, food and insects. Foods which are eaten raw, and milk and water are those most likely to transmit infection. Thorough cooking destroys the bacteria and unless the food is infected by being handled afterward, it is safe.

Our fingers are continually coming in contact with articles touched by others and may be so contaminated with human excretions from those diseased. The intestinal discharges of those suffering from typhoid fever contain the germs and here uncleanness is responsible for the transmission. Many epidemics of typhoid fever have been traced to a single case on a dairy farm where the housewife acted as a nurse and milkmaid.

Insects alone are responsible for the transmission of the germs of certain diseases. Yellow fever and malarial fever, for example are each carried by a single variety of mosquito from the sick to the well.

### CLUBS CROWDING THE SALOON.

During the license court hearing at Ebensburg, last week, Judge Stephen mentioned the fact that the town of South Fork supports five clubs, with an average membership of one hundred, where liquors are disposed of, with the result that the licensed saloons are being driven to the financial wall. That charge might apply with force in many towns.

### Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Linen and serge models very similar in type are shown in pongee, and white colorings. One suit of white serge has a lot of buttons on the coat in ivory and coral tones.  
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### GARRETT.

Cleveland Saylor, a former brakeman on the B. & O. is now employed in the South Side mines. W. G. Hocking of the Garrett Coal Company, went to Baltimore Friday to confer with B. & O. officials on matters pertaining to the coal business.

Mrs. Frank Kimmell delightfully entertained the Willing Workers of the Grace Reformed church at her home on Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. W. L. Brant, Mrs. U. S. Shober, and Mr. John Browley were the delegates from Grace Reformed church to the Sunday School convention held in the U. B. church in Rockwood on Thursday.

Eugene Haer, a telegraph operator on the Western Maryland R. R. who had been located at Shaw, W. Va., for the past three months, has come home to live with his mother, who resides in the Hoover block.

Miss Fannie Lenhart, whose home is at Blackfield, spent Tuesday in town visiting friends.

A splendid party composed of the following young ladies from Meyersdale took advantage of the fine roads Friday night and paid their former citizen, Johnnie Clark, now proprietor of the Merchants' Hotel here, a friendly visit: Misses Deal, Meyers, Wilson, Zinn, Conrad Baker, Will Dickey, and Weller. Mr. Clark served a sumptuous dinner for the visiting ladies before their departure.

Consumed Last Year by the "Frosty Sons of Thunder" .. Somerset County's army of beer drinkers had a good-sized thirst last year, judging from the information furnished by the brewers themselves. The production of the amber fluid by the county's four breweries was greater than it was the year before, notwithstanding the fact that the voters at the last election sent three representatives to Harrisburg in favor of local option. The managers of the breweries at Meyersdale and Rockwood, Jenner and Windber have filed their reports with Clerk of the Courts Frank A. Harrah for the year 1914 and while the breweries at Meyersdale and Rockwood suffered a slump along with the general depression, Windber and Jenner rolled up the total amount to a surprising degree. The total number of barrels brewed was 39,206. In addition to this a number of hotels sell beer from Johns town, Pittsburgh, Cumberland and a number of other points which would increase the amount consumed by not less than ten thousand more barrels. Following are the figures:

Brewery	1914	1913
Windber, No. 2	16,195	8,420
Jenner	3,706	3,210
Rockwood	8,585	10,360
Meyersdale	5,720	6,143
Total Barrels	39,206	28,133

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