

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of
Sunday School Course, The Moody Bible
Institute, Chicago, Ill.)

LESSON FOR MAY 2

SAUL TRIES TO KILL DAVID.

LESSON TEXT—1 Samuel 19:1-12.
GOLDEN TEXT—Whoso putteth his
trust in the Lord shall be safe.—Prov.
9:23.

Although anointed by Samuel, victor-
ious in arms and promoted at court,
David was many years in reaching his
throne. At first both court and army
did him honor (ch. 18:2), yet he con-
ducted himself with great modesty
(18:16, 23). He also obeyed the king
explicitly though he knew fully that
he was the God-appointed successor
of Saul. Escapes as wonderful and as
providential as David's occur in the
lives of most of us if we could but
know them.

I. David and Jonathan, vv. 1-3. The
story of the love of David and Jona-
than is a classic. With such close
family relations and a son-in-law so
successful at arms it is strange that
Saul's anger should vent itself upon
David. At first Saul was much at-
tached to David but the admiration of
the people for David aroused his jeal-
ousy, (ch. 18:6) and jealousy is pecu-
liarly a soldier's disease. The slave of
jealousy never has peace. As sin and
disobedience developed in his life Saul
became subject to fits of insane rage
during one of which, as David played
upon his harp and endeavored to quiet
the monarch's spirit, he hurled a
javelin, which served as his scepter,
at the harpist (ch. 19:10). Saul felt
that David was divinely protected and
he knew that God had departed from
his own life (15:23; 18:14). Saul did
not keep his grief and rage to himself
for Jonathan and the nation alike
knew all about it.

II. Saul and Jonathan, vv. 4-7. It
took courage and self-sacrifice on
Jonathan's part to speak on behalf of
David. Prudence and principle are
combined in Jonathan's plea. Those
who envy include in their hate and
anger all who speak kindly in behalf
of their enemy. But Jonathan's argu-
ment (vv. 4, 5) is unanswerable.
David had not sinned against Saul; it
was Jehovah who "wrought a great
salvation for all Israel" on the day
David took his life in his hand and
overcame Goliath. Jonathan pleads for
God as well as for his friend. He
called to Saul's memory his former
loyalty at seeing Jehovah's victory
through David and for the time being
Saul was persuaded (v. 6) and made
another of those impetuous promises
which proved so fleeting. Ushered by
Jonathan (Matt. 5:9) David returned
to Saul's presence, entered once more
upon the discharge of his duties and
desisted only when he saw that his
presence only aggravated the king and
that he was uselessly exposing his life
in Saul's presence. David was faith-
ful to God and to God's anointed king.

III. Michal and David, vv. 8-12.
Saul's hatred was too deep to be per-
manently overcome. David went out
and won a great victory over the Phi-
listines and as he followed his courtly
duties, Saul burst but with a fresh at-
tack (vv. 8, 9). David had married
Michal when about twenty-one years
of age and Saul's attacks occurred dur-
ing the next three years. The evil
spirit mentioned was a demon (18:10;
Acts 16:16-18; Mark 1:23-26), a mes-
senger of Satan permitted by God for
Saul's discipline (II Cor. 12:7). God
permits evil to come upon men not to
tempt them—solicit them to do wrong
—but to bring them to repentance or
to refine them as pure gold. Thus evil
may be said to do God's work (ch.
4:1) "to be sent from Jehovah."

IV. Summary. All who envy are
murderers at heart (Matt. 27:18; I John
3:12, 15). The present day murderers
hurl their javelins of slander, lying
and vituperation against the reputa-
tion of the men whom they hate. Or
else they hurl unfair and unjust busi-
ness methods at others that they may
perpetuate their power or else build
themselves up upon the ruins of those
whom they envy. Saul missed David
but he was no less a murderer. Satan
always overshoots the mark when he
assails one of God's anointed, chosen
ones. Saul could not harm David
though he wished to ever so much
(Ps. 37:32, 33; Isa. 54:17; Luke 4:30;
10:39). Saul's hatred stopped not even
at the threshold of David's house but
invaded the sacred precincts of his
home. Envy is blind, it assails all
that a man has, spares none with
whom he is connected and colors ev-
ery act and relation of life even to the
relations of father and child. Saul
was frustrated by his own children.
Jonathan and Michal. David's danger
was imminent, hence his speedy escape.

Men are strong in so far as they
see God's purpose and discipline in
their lives.

Saul's experience at Naloth (vv. 23,
24) was a response of his emotional
nature to a religious appeal, another
time when God was waiting to be
gracious.

Divested of his armor and outer
robes Saul lay in a trance, overcome
by the power of him who turns the
hearts of men as rivers of water.

The wrath of man is made to praise
him, the life of the prophet is pre-
served and likewise the life of his
servant David.



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Prof. J. C. Beahm has been re-elected
principal of the Boswell schools
for another term of three years.

The graduating class of the Somer-
set High School expects to go to
Washington, D. C. in about a week.

Jos. Konkoly, aged 50, was found
dead in his room at McDonaldton one
morning recently. He has a wife and
children in the old country and since
the war broke out has been grieving
over their condition.

The Macdonaldton mines of the
Brothersvalley Coal Company are run-
ning full time at present. Besides hav-
ing plenty of orders to keep them
running six days a week; a number
of improvements are being planned
and installed.

Chas. Kimmel, aged 44, had his
left foot caught by a saw at the mill at
Richard Miller, near Wilsoncreek
recently and two toes were severed.
The surgeons conjectured that the toes
could be made to grow again so clean
was the cut, and sewed the members
into their former places and sent the
man to the Cottage Hospital at Con-
nellsville.

L. S. Yoder, of Springs, is the owner
of a real fox den. On the eastern
side of his barn he has a tight wire
cage about 12 by 30 feet where he has
five foxes which are all one year old,
three gray and two red. They were
captured last summer and are nearly
full grown now.

Emmanuel Harshberger and son
Noah have bought the old Sam Folk
farm in Elk Lick township, recently
sold by Samuel Baker to William
Haning. The latter resold it to the
Hershbergers before moving on it.
Noah Hershberger has already moved
upon it and has begun the spring
work. The price was \$12,000.

Fifty sign boards are to be erect-
ed along the principal roads of this
section of the state by the Johnstown
Chamber of Commerce. The signs
will inform the travelers how many
miles they are from Johnstown. Many
others will be put up later in the year
if they meet with the approval of the
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Dixon, Health Commissioner.

This is the season when the ama-
teur gardener's eyes are delighted by
the rows of summer vegetables that
are poking their green leaves above
the warm earth. The season for raw
foods has already arrived.

Lettuce, watercress, radishes, pars-
ley, cucumbers, leeks, berries and
many other toothsome growing things
burden the market stalls and tempt
the housewife after the winter menu
of canned vegetables.

A certain per cent of raw foods is
an excellent stimulant to the appe-
tite and a wholesome change at this
time of the year. Care should be ex-
ercised however, that they are properly
cleansed before being eaten. Often
the laborers in the truck garden and
those who handle the truck before it
reaches consumer are careless in the
use of dangerous fertilizers and some
pick and prepare the vegetables for
market who are also careless to a de-
gree that is almost criminal.

All vegetables to be eaten raw and
berries, even at the risk of slightly
injuring their flavor, should be thor-
oughly washed before being eaten.

Gardens should be fertilized with
care. No night soil should be used on
truck gardens from which produce
may be served uncooked. Watercress
must not be grown in polluted
streams. Epidemics are often produc-
ed in this way. Bananas should be
thoroughly washed as soon as they
come into the hands of the consumer,
so that the dirt taken on during the
transportation will not be conveyed
to other edibles.

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Surplus.....	100,000.00
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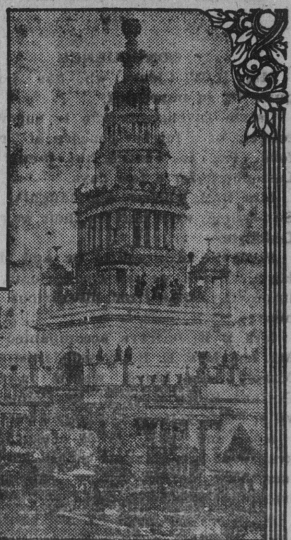
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national Exposition in San Francisco
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day since the attendance has been enor-
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tiful thoroughfares hummed with ac-
tivity and have continued to do so.
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strated at this early date that it will
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