SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON V.

May 2, 1915. Saul Tries to Kill David. 1 Sam. 1:9 1-24. Print 19: 1-12.

Commentary.—I. Jonathan's care for David (vs. 1-7.) 1. That they should kill David—It was in one of his insane fits of jealousy that Saul gave this murderous order. David continued to play on the harp before him to quiet him, but his efforts were not always successful. The records do not show that there was any fresh cause for Saul's anger. 2. Jonathan told David—David had a warm friend in the king's court in the person of Jonathan, whose soul was knit with the soul of David (ch. 18: 1.) The two had made a covenant of friendship and Jonathan showed himself a true friend to David as long as he lived. He took the part of David rather than that of his insanely jealous father. Hide thyself—Since Saul had given orders to his servants as well as to Jonathan to take David's life, it was very necessary that David take the best possible precautions to protect himself. 3. In the field where thou art—Jonathan was standing between his father and David. It would seem that he wished David to know exactly what Saul's mind was regarding him, therefore he requested him to hide in such a place that he could quickly report to him what Saul said. I will commune with my father of thee—Jonathan was willing to draw out his father in conversation and to plead for his friend.

4. Jonothan spoke good of David—Had Jonathan simply advised David to flee without endeavoring to bring Saul to a better mind, he would have acted to the prejudice of his father's interests, by depriving him of the best support of his kingdom.—Cam. Bib. What follows reveals the wisdom of Jonathan and his sense of justice. Let not the king sin against.... David. The course Saul was taking with reference to David was most unjust, and Jonathan was ready both to recognize respectfully his father's kingship and to point out the wickedness of his actions toward David. This meant much, since Saul was the father and was also king. Hath not sinned against thee—David had constantly worked for the interests of the nation, and in doing so had worked for the best interests of the king. To thee-ward—Toward thee. 5. Put his life in his hand—David risked his life, as he went out against Goliath. He did it out of devotion to his country and his God. He did what no man in all the army of Israel was willing to do. The Lord wrought a great salvation for all Israel—David went forth in the name of the Lord against the Philistines' champion and the Lord gave Israel the victory as a result. Jonathan devoutly ascribed to God the honor for it. Didst rejoice—it was well for Saul to be reminded of what had been done and of how he had felt about the work David did. Innocent blood—In taking the life of David he would be shedding innocent blood.

6. Saul harkened—The plea of Jonathan was effectual. He had appealed to reason, to justice and to experience. Jonathan was a noble man and deserved to be heard. As the Lord liveth—A form of expression used to render a statement emphatic. He shall not be slain—Thus quickly was Saul's mind changed, but it was not permanently fixed. This shows his impulsiveness, which no doubt became greater on account of his malady. 7. Showed him all those things—David's relief must have been very great when he learned of Saul's changed attitude toward him; yet he must have realized that his attitude might change as suddenly again. He was in his presence, as in times past—He was Israel's great military leader, yet he employed his skill in music for Saul's Sake.

II. David's escape from Saul (vs. 8-17). 8. There was war again— The Philistines had not been permanently subdued. David went out—His success in this campaign was great. He performed a most important service for Saul and his kingdom. 9. Evil spirit from the Lord was upon Saul—The Holy Spirit had been withdawn from Saul because of his disobedience to God's commands, and the Lord permitted an evil spirit to take possession of him at times. The spirit of jealousy returned and he was beside himself. As he sat, etc.—Saul, as usual, had his spear in his hand, and David was playing upon his harp in an effort to soothe the enraged king. 10. Saul sought to smite David—No promise that he had made was remembered when this new fit of anger gained control of the king. Escaped that night—Fled from the king's presence and first sought refuge in his own house. To some it seemed strange that David did not effect his escape altogether from Saul after his former attempt to smite him (ch. 18: 11); but doubtless David regarded Saul's former attack as an outburst of his madness, not flowing from any deep-seated design against his life. But now, after the startling revelations which Jonathan had made to him of Saul's deadly purpose, he feels that his life is no longer safe in the royal court.—Whedon.

II. Sent messengers unto David's house—At this time Saul's purpose seems to have been firm to cause the death of David. As David had at first fled to his house, Saul hoped to have him caught there. He expected his men would guard the house to prevent David's escape. They were to take him in the morning while he was not suspecting an attack and not on his guard. Michal David's wife—She was Saul's daughter. She warned David against her father's efforts to slay him. She doubtless knew Saul's disposition better than David did. "Psalm 59 is referred to by its title to the present occasion. If this is correct, the psalm supplements the history, showing that David was in danger, not from Saul only, but from ruffians among Saul's followers who prowled about the streets of Gibeah threatening his life."—Cam. Bib. 12. Through a window—The spies escaped from Jericho through a window (Josh. 2: 15), and Paul once made his escape from his enemies by being let down from a window. If David's house was on the city wall the escape was not difficult, for the guard would likely be watching at the door of his house. 13-17. Michal took an image she had in the house and put it in David's bed and with a goat's hair pillow made a representatation of a man. She did this to deceive Saul's men and give David time to make good his escape. She also employed falsehood to explain to her father her course in allowing David to escape. We can not approve of her deception and falsehood.

III. Saul prophesying (vs. 18-24). David fled to Ramah, the home of Samuel, and told Samuel what Saul had done. He remained with Samuel in the school of the prophets. Saul heard of it and sent men to take David, and as they came near the school of the prophets, they began to prophesy. Saul sent the second time and the third time with the same results, then he went himself, and as he drew near he also began to prophesy. God would call Saul's attention to his wicked course.

QUESTIONS.—Who was Jonathan? What was his attitude toward David? How did Jonathan bring his father to feel friendly toward David? What success did David have in his war with the Philistines? What attempt did Saul make to slay David? How did David escape? Who was Michal? Where did David go from Gibeah? With whom did he live? What came to those whom Saul sent to take David?

PRACTICAL SURVEY.

Topic.—Attempted violence.

I. Disclosed Saul's secret plot.

II. Defeated by divine intervention.

I. Disclosed Saul's secret plot. In tracing Saul in his progress to final ruin and Dacid in his accession to the throne we have here brought out the aroused hostility of Saul on the one side and the services of Jonathan's friendship on the other. Father and son were at cross purposes concerning the life of one who in the providence of God was to supplant them both. In the progress of the conflict between ermity and friendship there was a revelation of the individual characteristics of the two men and the principles which actuated them. The ruling passion of Saul's inner life became his acknowledged master, so that murder in intent became murder avowed. He raised in Jonathan's mind the conflict between worldly, personal interests and his fidelity of friendship. It was a deep grief to Jonathan to witness the downfall of his father in character, but to be called upon to be partaker of his sin was beyond all else. In yearning desire to save his father from continued crime and in fervent hope to spare the life of God's chosen one, Jonathan conversed in a kindly manner with his father, citing David's heroism in behalf of Israel and God's evident approval of him. He recalled Saul's own admiration for David, then asked if he could inflict death upon him. Jonathan's prudent and persuasive intercession softened the king's obduracy, so that he made a most solemn profession of reconciliation and David "was in his presence as in times past." The change wrought was but superficial, for Saul's nature was alienated from God.

II. Defeated by divine intervention. The path marked out for David was dark and dangerous, but God watched over, led and defended him. Things permitted were to test, strengthen and perfect his character ,however strange such providence may have seemed to David. Though Saul had made him his son-in-law it was in the exercise of his low cunning that Michal might become a snare to him. In this he was also defeated. Michal's quick wit devised the means of escape for David, deceived the messengers of Saul and invented a ready story to disarm her father's wrath. Her fear of her father was greater than her love for truth. Her love for her husband was greater than her hatred for sin. David sought Samuel whose home was the centre of spiritual influence. Life at Saul's court was out of accord with his most cherished aspirations. He was conscious of being misunderstod and misrepresented. The earlier days of quiet service and holy communion with God were but sweet memories, bringing the bitter realities of daily life into stronger relief. What wonder that with bounding heart and rapid flight he sought consolation, counsel and rest with the honored man who once anointed him to some unexplained service. While battles were being fought and the kingdom was troubled with the unsatisfactory condition of the around himself a band of men who court, Samuel was quietly gathering were becoming a power to influence the national life in days to come. Saul's wicked desperation was great when he sent to Naioth to capture David. It reached its highest pitch when, after three attempts to take him, he ventured to go himself to the abode of Samuel. It was after long separation that Saul thus drew near to the revered man of God and the company of prophets, the only occasion on which Samuel, David and Saul were present at the same time and place. To protect David from Saul's messengers were restrained from carrying out position to Saul's designs, the messengers weer restrained from carrying out their orders. The divine power was exercised, first upon Saul's men and then upon himself. As each band saw the venerated Samuel stand at the head of the prophets, they feared to do violence to one under such august protection. Hitherto Saul appeared to be fighting solely against David, but when the spirit of prophecy came upon his messengers and rendered them helpless, it was obvious that he was fighting against God. Such knowledge added to his mental confusion, though not sufficiently to subdue his wild passion. His bodily manifestations were not marks of grace, but indicated a moral state at variance with the Spirit of God. The experience served to change a persecuting monarch into a harmless enthusiast. T. R. A.

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CANADIAN CASUALTIES

Ottawa, Ont., despaech: Ten names appear on to-day's Canadian casualty list, one killed and the others wounded. The latter include Major Lorne Ross, of Victoria, B. C.

The list follows:

Third Field Company Canadian Engineers:

Wounded—April 18, No. 5,486, Driver William Banfield. Next of kin, Mrs. Eliza Dinnie, Trenton, Ont.

Eighth battalion:

Wounded—April 18, No. 1,487, Private Russell Whiteside. Next of kin, Mrs. Emery, 223 Lease street, Fort William, Ont.

Wounded—April 18, No. 305, Pte. Kolskuggar Thorsteinson. Next of kin, Mrs. G. Thorsteinson, Sturgeon Creek Postoffice, Winnipeg.

Tenth Battalion—

Wounded—April 18, No. 20,823, Corp. Edmund James Scott. Next of kin, Grace Scott, 850 19th street, Brandon, Man.

Thirteenth Battalion—

Wounded—April 16, No. 24,334, Pte. Thomas Richard Adams. Next of kin, Mrs. W. J. Fogg, 796 Delorimier avenue, Montreal.

Fourteenth Battalion—

Killed in action—April 18, No. 25,557, Pte. Wm. Alexander. Next of kin, Mrs. Alexander, 191 Vinet street, Montreal.

Fifteenth Battalion—

Slightly wounded—April 19, Lieut. Frank M. Gibson. Next of kin, Sir John Gibson, Hamilton.

16th Battalion:

Wounded—Major Lorne Ross, admitted to hospital London, April 19, gunshot wound right arm. Next of kin, Katherine H. Ross, 1236 Faithful street, N. Victoria, B. C.

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry:

Wounded—April 18, N. 713, Private Thomas Francis. Next of kin, R. E. Francis, 1115 Twelfth street, Edmonton.

Wounded—April 18, No. 1785, Private Benjamin Holt. Next of kin, Louisa Holt, 213 Twenty-fifth avenue, Calgary.

IN FULL RETREAT

Turks in Mesopotamia All in Disorderly Flight.

London Cable.—Turkish prisoners to the number of 515, including six officers, were taken by the British troops in the fighting in Mesopotamia last week, according to an official report issued by the India Office tonight. The report adds that the British pursuing party found the Turks everywhere in disorganized retreat, both by road and by river in Arab craft. Twelve of the Turk boats were overtaken and captured or sunk.

"Our advance cavalry," the report says in conclusion, "occupied Nakahilah (19 miles northwest of Zobeir) on the 17th, and there now is no enemy nearer than Rattabi, 50 miles from Basera."

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO MARKETS

FARMERS' MARKET.

Eggs, new-laid, dozen	0 23	0 24
Butetr, choice dairy	0 34	0 38
Spring chickens, dressed	0 21	0 22
Ducks, dressed, lb	0 18	0 20
Fowl	0 16	0 18
Turkeys, dressed	0 26	0 28
Apples, Can., bbl	3 00	5 50
Potatoes, bag	0 60	0 70
Cabbage, crate	1 75	2 00
Onions, bag	1 00	1 25
Do., Spanish, case	4 50	0 00

MEATS—WHOLESALE.

Beef, forequarters, cwt.	$8 50	$9 50
Do., hindquarters	12 50	13 00
Do., choice sides	10 50	11 50
Do., medium	9 00	10 00
Do., common, cwt.	6 50	7 00
Veals, common, cwt.	9 00	10 00
Do., prime	13 00	14 00
Shop hogs	11 00	11 50
Do., heavy	9 50	10 50
Lambs	16 00	18 50
Mutton, light	11 00	13 00

SUGAR MARKET.

Sugars are quoted as follows:

	per cwt.
Extra granulated, Redpath's	$6 71
Do., 20-lb. bags	6 81
Do., St. Lawrence	6 71
Do., 20-lb. bags	6 81
Lantic, granulated	6 71
Do., brilliant yellow	6 31
St. Lawrence, No. 1 yellow	6 31
Acadia	6 61
Dominion crystals, sacks	6 55

LIVE STOCK.

Receipts—395 cattle; 35 calves; 1,964 hogs; 25 sheep.

Butcher cattle, choice	7 25	7 65
do. do. medium	6 50	6 75
do. do. common	5 25	6 25
Butcher cows, choice	6 25	6 75
do. do. medium	5 25	6 00
do. do. canners	3 75	4 25
do. bulls	6 25	7 00
Feeding steers	6 35	7 00
Stockers, choice	6 00	6 75
do. light	5 50	6 00
Milkers, choice, each	65 00	90 00
Springers	50 00	85 00
Sheep, ewes	7 00	7 50
Bucks and culls	6 00	7 00
Lambs	9 00	10 50
Hogs, fed and watered	8 50	8 65
Hogs, f. o. b.	8 15	8 30
Calves	8 50	10 00

OTHER MARKETS.

WINNIPEG GRAIN OPTIONS.

Wheat:—	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
May	1 58½	1 59½	1 58½	1 59¼
July	1 58⅞	1 58⅞	1 58½	1 58⅝
Oct.	1 23⅝	1 23⅝	1 22½	1 22½
Oats—				
May	00 65½	0 65½	0 64⅝	0 64⅞
July	0 65⅝	0 65⅝	0 65	0 65
Flax —				
May	1 80¼	1 80½	1 79	1 79½
July	1 83¼	1 83¾	1 82½	1 82½
Oct.	1 87¼	1 87¼	1 85½	1 85¾

MINNEAPOLIS GRAIN MARKET.

Minneapolis—Wheat—No. 1 hard, $1.61 1-2; No. 1 Northern, $1.57 to $1.61; May, $1.55. Corn—No. 3 yellow, 73 1-4 to 73 3-4c. Oats—No. 3 white, 55 to 55 1-2c. Flour and bran unchanged.

DULUTH GRAIN MARKET.

Duluth—Wheat—No. 1 hard, $1.61; No. 1 Northern, $1.60; May, $1.59. Linseed, $1.96; May, $1.96 1-2.

BROCKVILLE CHEESE BOARD.

Brockville—At a special meeting of the Cheese Board to-day 426 boxes of white and 480 boxes of colored were boarded. The highest bid of 16c was refused, and no sales resulted. The board adjourned until May 6.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK.

Cattle, receipts 4,000.
Market steady.

Steers, native	6 15	8 70
Western steers	5 65	7 50
Cows and heifers	3 00	8 35
Calves	6 00	8 75

Hogs, receipts 20,000.
Market steady.

Light	7 40	7 85
Mixed	7 30	7 75
Heavy	6 90	7 65
Rough	6 90	7 15
Pigs	5 75	7 00
Bulk of sales	7 45	7 65

Sheep, receipts 13,000.
Market weak.

Native	7 50	8 60
Lambs native	8 40	10 75

BUFFALO LIVE STOCK.

East Buffaro, Despatch—Cattle receipts 250; heavy slow; others active.

Veals, receipts 500; active; $4.50 to $10.50.

Hogs, receipts 1,600; active; heavy $8.00 to $8.10; mixed and yorkers, $8.15 to $8.20; pigs $8.00 to $8.10; roughs $6.75 to $6.90, stags $5.00 to $6.00.

Sheep and lambs, receipts 2,200; active, unchanged.

LIVERPOOL PRODUCE.

Wheat, spot quiet, No. 2 hard, winter No. 2 Manitoba, hard winter—12s, 10d. No. 3 Manitoba—12s, 8d.

Corn, spot quiet.

American mixed, new—8s, 3d.

American, mixed, old—8s, 1-2d.

Laplata, mixed—8s, 1 1-2d.

Flour, winter patents—48s, 6d.

Hops in London (Pacific Coast)—£3, 16s 6d. to £3, 15s.

Hams, short cut, 14 to 16 lbs.—68s.

Bacon, Cumberland cut, 26 to 30 lbs.—[illegible]

Short ribs, 16 to 24 lbs.—64s, 6d.

Clear bellies, 14 to 16 lbs.—58s.

Long clear middles, light, 25 to 34 lbs.—64s, 6d.

Long clear middles, heavy, 35 to 40 lbs.—62s.

Short clear backs, 16 to 20 lbs.—55s, 6d.

Shoulders, square, 11 to 13 lbs.—49s.

Lard, prime western, in tierces, new—51s.

Lard, prime western, in tierces, old—[illegible]

American refined, 56-lbs. boxes—51s, 9d.

Cheese, Canadian, finest white, new—[illegible]

Colored, new—[illegible]

Australian in London—39s, 9d.

Turpentine, spirits—[illegible]

Rosin, common—12s, 3d.

Petroleum, refined—9d.

Linseed Oil—38s, 6d.

Cotton Seed Oil, hull refined, spot—32s, 6d.

MONTREAL MARKETS

Prime steers, 7½ to 7¾; medium, 6 to 7¼; common, 5 to 6.

Cows, $40 to $[illegible] each; springers and to $65 each.

Calves, 5 to 8½.

Sheep, about 6 cents.

Lambs, 9; spring lambs, $4 to $7 each.

Hogs, 9¾.

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