

International Sunday School Lesson For Next Sunday

Review by P. B. Fitzwater, D. D., Teacher
of English Bible, at Moody Institute, Chicago.

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THE BOY SAMUEL

LESSON TEXT—1 Sam. 1:24-28; 3:1-21.

GOLDEN TEXT—My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways.—Prov. 23:26.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL—1 Sam. 1:1-23; 2:1-36.

PRIMARY TOPIC—The Child Samuel in God's House.

JUNIOR TOPIC—A Boy Who Listened and obeyed.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Training for Religious Capacities in the Training of Children.

LESSON—Samuel Given to the Lord (1:24-28).

Samuel was given to Hannah in answer to prayer. His name means "asked of God." For a time he was cared for by his mother in the home. In asking God for a son she vowed to dedicate him to the Lord. Accordingly, at an early age she took him to the sanctuary and gave him over to the charge of Eli. Thus in his tender years he ministered to the Lord.

III. Feature of Israel's History in This Period.

1. A demoralized priesthood. (1) The priests were actuated by greed (2:12-17). It was God's will that those who ministered at the altar should live in the things of the altar, and that they work through the divine regulations touching the matter and were securing their selfish ends by force. (2) The priests polluted the courts of God's house with the grossest immorality (2:22).

2. An alienated people. The only thing which separates people from God is sin.

3. A cessation of divine revelation (3:1). God was silent in those years, there was no special vision.

The message from the Lord is more a matter of memory than an active experience. The same thing in principle is true of the individual life today; some who once enjoyed fellowship with God no longer hear his voice speaking to them.

III. God Calls Samuel (3:2-10.)

In striking contrast with the degeneracy of the nation we have brought before us the beautiful life of Samuel. We see God getting ready for the regeneration of the nation. Dwelling within the sacred courts and ministering before the Lord with Eli, is the innocent Samuel, who is to be the savior of his people. In Samuel we have a striking pattern of child religion. The Lord gave him in answer to Hannah's prayer. From his birth he was dedicated to the Lord. While quite young his mother took him to the sanctuary of the Lord to be served and slept.

It is a good thing to have much sin forgiven, but it is better far to grow up without sin.

Two traits in Samuel's character stand out in this call; namely, his cheerful obedience to the Lord's call and his surrendered will. It was no easy thing to respond cheerfully to the repeated call. It may have seemed to him to be unreasonable, but each time he obeyed in simplicity.

IV. Samuel's First Prophetic

Message (3:11-18).

Up to this time Samuel obeyed the one who was over him, but the time had now come when he must directly hear and obey the Lord. The first message entrusted to him is a most terrible one. To deliver it to me, trying to. He was commanded to tell it to Eli, but when pressed by him he manifested the true courage which was lying back of his fear. It must have been a bitter sting to Eli to see Samuel recognized and himself passed by, but he was submissive. He knew that the slight was just; he could not fail to interpret it thus in view of the disappearance of the man of God to him (3:1-3).

This fearful visitation upon Eli's house was due to the sins of his sons. He was held accountable for not restraining them. Parental laxity is most cruel. There is an age in which children may be restrained, but when passed over the power to restrain goes with it.

V. Samuel Established in the Prophetic Office (3:19-21).

"And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him, and did let none of his words to him. And he went to all Israel, from Dan even to Beersheba, knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord." This is a verification of the saying "Him that honors me I will honor." Little did Hannah realize that the boy who had been given in answer to her prayer would one day become the head of the nation. This new position brought great danger to the boy, but the God who raised him up was able to sustain him.

SUNDAY AND MONDAY, APRIL 25-26.

Sunday's astrological chart, while holding many conflicting testimonies, promises some unexpected benefits and emphasizes the promise of new and helpful friends. It is probable that these will hold high positions in both public and social activities and will be disposed to be of service.

Those whose birthday it is, will be happy by high and powerful friends.

A child born on this day will be clever, have good judgment and will rise in life.

Monday's horoscope lays the emphasis on domestic, social and affective activities, with the promise of good fortune and happiness in these. The mental faculties will also be alert and profound, with a tendency to turn to the abstract, metaphysical or occult.

Those whose birthday it is will have a successful and interesting year. A child born on this day will be active, progressive and fortunate.

Faith and Waiting.

The most difficult business in the world is waiting. No one can do it without some kind of faith. It is a venture of triumphant faith. The great believers have been the unwearied waiters; faith meant to them, not controversial opinion, but sustaining power.—Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick.

Like Our Shadows.

False friends are like our shadows, keeping close to us while we walk in the sunshine, but leaving us the instant we cross into the shade.

Definition.

A highbrow is a man who says "group" when he means "bunch."

Begin Your Business Training

Monday, May 10th

Why Go Blinded Through Life Because of a Lack of a Thorough Business Education?

The greatest danger today is the abundance of high-wage jobs, which blind our young people to the importance of an education.

It is only through study and specialized training that future advancement is possible. Business offers not only present high salaries, but future promotion.

All Persons

Who desire to attend the Operetta, "SYLVIA," to be given at

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE—May 5, 6, 7—are reminded to purchase tickets in advance, as the seating capacity of the hall is limited.

No Tickets Will Be Sold at the Door.

Catalog is Free. Write, call or telephone for it. This school is fully accredited through the National Association of Accredited Commercial Schools. Recognized by the Federal Government.

The Star Salesman Knows How Appearance Helps

The "Star" salesman knows that a clean, well-groomed appearance is necessary for his success. The same chap in a baggy, wrinkled, spotted suit would find his sales record on the toboggan in no time.

Perfection Cleaners are the allies of hundreds of keen, ambitious men in this city. Through this careful expert dry cleaning service they help young business men to look prosperous and successful. Phone your order. We'll call for your garments and deliver promptly.

Perfection Cleaners & Dyers

1101 KING STREET

LINCOLN 1903.

Try News-Times Want Ads

A Churchless Town!

No, not yours. You would not live there—if you could help it. You would not bring up your children there—if you could help it.

But other people cannot help it.

There are hundreds of towns in this Christian land—new towns, towns on the frontier, towns on the western plains—where there is no church and can be none unless you help build it.

These Are the Facts

Six out of every ten children in the United States never cross the threshold of a church or Sunday-school.

Sixty per cent of our children are without religious training. Think of it! Twenty-six million children.

How long do you think America can remain Christian under conditions like these?

It is up to *somebody* to bring about a change. If it is not your business, whose is it?

You cannot afford to evade the issue.



Cuticura Ointment Best For Rough Red Hands

Nothing more effective in soothing and healing rough, cracked, red hands. Bathe them each night in a strong hot lather of Cuticura Soap. Dry and rub in Cuticura Ointment, and wear soft white gloves during the night. Result: soft, white hands.

Sample Book Free by Mail. Address: Cuticura Laboratories, Dept. 100, 200 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill. 25¢. Cuticura Soap shave without mug.

SCIENTIST.

First Church of Christ, Scientist—Main and Madison sts.; 9:45 Sunday school; 10:30 a. m. services.

Holy communion 7:30 a. m.; church school 9:45 a. m.; morning service and sermon by Bishop Partridge, recently of Japan and China, subject, "America and the Orient." 11 a. m.

St. Paul's—Lafayette and Lincoln way. 11:30 a. m. Sunday school; 10:30 a. m. services.

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