



"The entrance of thy word giveth light."

THE
BIBLE
STUDENTS'
LIBRARY,

- A -
SEMI-MONTHLY
PUBLICATION

DEVOTED TO THE
Investigation and Ex-
position of Bible
Doctrines.

SABBATH-SCHOOL
LESSONS

◀ FROM ▶

Old Testament History

◀ FOR ▶

Senior Classes.

Oct. 4 to Dec. 27, 1890.

PUBLISHED FOR THE
International Sabbath-School Association,

BY THE
PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING CO.,

TERMS: —

\$1.50

— Per Year.

12th & Castro Sts.,
OAKLAND, CAL.

Copyrighted 1890.

43 Bond Street,
NEW YORK.

All Rights Reserved.

Number 62.

Oakland, Cal.

May 15, 1890.

THE BIBLE STUDENTS' LIBRARY.

The Following Numbers are NOW READY and will be Sent
Post-Paid on Receipt of Price:

	PRICE.		PRICE.
No. 1. Bible Sanctification.....	10 cts.	No. 33. The Two Thrones.....	4 cts.
" 2. Abiding Sabbath and Lord's Day.....	20 "	" 34. God's Memorial.....	2 "
" 3. Views of National Re- form, Series 1.....	15 "	" 35. The Millennium.....	3 "
" 4. The Saints' Inheritance.....	10 "	" 36. The Signs of the Times.....	3 "
" 5. The Judgment.....	2 "	" 37. The Second Message of Rev. XIV.....	3 "
" 6. The Third Angel's Mes- sage.....	4 "	" 38. The First Message of Rev. XIV.....	2 "
" 7. The Definite Seventh Day.....	2 "	" 39. The Lost Time Question.....	2 "
" 8. S. S. Lessons: Subject, Tithes and Offerings.....	5 "	" 40. Seven Reasons for Sun- day Keeping Exam- ined.....	2 "
" 10. Scripture References.....	4 "	" 41. Thoughts on Baptism.....	25 "
" 11. Milton on the State of the Dead.....	4 "	" 41A. " " " ".....	35 "
" 12. Samuel and the Witch of Endor.....	4 "	" 42. Elishu on the Sabbath.....	2 "
" 13. Spiritualism a Satanic Delusion.....	4 "	" 43. Old Moral Code of Ten Commandments not Revised.....	2 "
" 14. The Sufferings of Christ.....	4 "	" 44. The Sabbath Made for Man.....	2 "
" 15. Law and Gospel.....	2 "	" 46. Without Excuse.....	1 "
" 16. Christ in the Old Testa- ment.....	2 "	" 47. Thoughts for the Can- did.....	1 "
" 17. Second Coming of Christ.....	10 "	" 48. Which Day do you Keep? And Why?.....	1 "
" 18. Vindication of the True Sabbath.....	10 "	" 49. Can We Know?.....	1 "
" 19. Who Changed the Sab- bath?.....	3 "	" 50. Is the End Near?.....	1 "
" 20. S. S. Lessons: Subject, Letter to the Hebrews.....	7 "	" 51. Is Man Immortal?.....	1 "
" 21. The Seventh p't of Time.....	4 "	" 52. Why not Found Out Be- fore?.....	1 "
" 22. The Ten Commad- ments Not Abolished.....	4 "	" 53. The Sabbath and the Law.....	20 "
" 23. Honor due to God.....	10 "	" 54. The Nature and Obliga- tion of the Sabbath of the Fourth Commad- ment.....	10 "
" 24. Is Sunday the Sabbath?.....	1 "	" 55. Order of Events in the Judgment.....	15 "
" 25. The Sanctuary of the Bi- ble.....	2 "	" 56. Sabbath-School Lessons, Subject, The Letter to the Hebrews, concluded.....	5 "
" 26. The Sabbath in the New Testament.....	2 "	" 57. The Life of Christ, Tent- meeting S. S. Lessons for senior classes.....	2 "
" 27. The Bible, Its Inspira- tion and Importance.....	2 cts.	" 58. Matthew 24, or The Sec- ond Coming of Christ.....	10 "
" 28. S. S. Lessons: Subject, The Letter to the He- brews—continued.....	5 "	" 60. Tent-meeting Lessons on "Prophecy".....	2 "
" 29. Justification by Faith.....	5 "	" 61. Tent-meeting Lessons on "Sin and Righteousness.".....	1 "
" 30. The Perfection of the Ten Commandments.....	1 "		
" 31. The Second Advent.....	4 "		
" 32. The Present Truth.....	4 "		

—ORDER BY NUMBER.—

ADDRESS ALL ORDERS TO

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING CO.,

OAKLAND, CAL.

43 Bond Street, New York.

Old Testament History,

LESSON I.

OCTOBER 4, 1890.

FORGETTING GOD AND ITS RESULT.

(Read "*Patriarchs and Prophets*," pp. 543-545.)

1. AFTER Joshua had settled the people of Israel in the land of Canaan, how long did they serve the Lord? Judges 2:6, 7.

2. How was it with the next generation? Verse 10.

3. Was there any excuse for their not knowing the Lord and the works which he had done for Israel? See Num. 16:36-40; Joshua 4:1-9; 8:30-35.

4. Has there ever been any excuse for people not knowing God? Acts 14:15-17; Rom. 1:20.

5. Why is it, then, that people do not know the Lord? Rom. 1:21, 28; 2 Peter 3:5.

6. How did the Israelites show their disregard for God? Judges 2:11-13.

7. What was the result of their apostasy? Verses 14, 15.

8. Had the Lord warned them that this would be the result of apostasy? Read carefully Lev. 26:14-39.

9. How much strength would they have had if they had kept God's commandments? Lev. 26: 3-8.

10. Did the Lord utterly forsake them when they apostatized from him? Judges 2 : 16.

11. What return did they make for their deliverances? Verses 17-20.

12. For how long a time were they ruled by judges? Acts 13 : 19, 20.

13. What characteristic of God was plainly revealed in his dealing with Israel during this time? Ex. 34 : 6; James 5 : 11.

14. Does man's unbelief affect God's character? 2 Tim. 2 : 13.

LESSON II.

OCTOBER 11, 1890.

GIDEON CHOSEN AS DELIVERER.

(Read "*Patriarchs and Prophets*," pp. 546-548.)

1. FOR how long a time was Israel ruled by judges? Acts 13 : 19, 20.

2. For what reason were judges raised up for them? Judges 2 : 16.

3. When the judge who delivered them from their enemies was dead, what would they do? Verse 19.

4. Then what would be repeated? Judges 3 : 5-9, 11, 12-15, 30; 4 : 1-3, 22-24. See note 1.

5. How did it fare with the Israelites, when,

because of their apostasy, they were delivered into the power of the Midianites? Judges 6 : 1-6.

6. Whom did the Lord then choose as the deliverer of Israel? Verses 11-14.

7. When Gideon mentioned his poverty and his humble position, what assurance did the Lord give him? Verses 15, 16.

8. What proof did Gideon receive that it was indeed a heavenly being that was talking with him? Verses 17-21.

9. How did this knowledge affect Gideon? Verse 22.

10. What assurance did he receive, and how did he recognize it? Verses 23, 24.

11. How was Gideon directed to begin his work of throwing off the Midianitish yoke? Verses 25, 26. See note 2.

12. How did he carry out this direction? Verses 27, 28.

13. In what way did the men of the city display their degeneracy? Verses 28-30.

14. What sensible defense did Gideon's father make? Verses 31, 32.

15. Relate the prophet's graphic description of the folly of idol-making and idol-worship. Isa. 44: 9-20.

16. What took place when the Midianites came up to fight against Israel? Judges 6 : 33-35.

17. By what double test did God convince Gideon that he was the one chosen to deliver Israel? Verses 36-40.

18. In this, what kind of spirit did Gideon show that he possessed? Rom. 12 : 3.

NOTES.

1. IN Judges 3: 5-9, 11, 12-15, 30; 4: 1-3, 22-24, we have an outline of the course of the Jews after the death of the judges that outlived Joshua. They dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, etc., and intermarried with them, and served their gods, until the Lord in his anger sold them into the hand of the king of Mesopotamia. After they had served him eight years, the Lord raised up a deliverer in the person of Othniel, who, after delivering Israel, judged them forty years, during which time there was peace. But when Othniel died the children of Israel did evil again, and the Lord allowed them to be conquered by Eglon, king of Moab, who oppressed them eighteen years. Then when they cried to the Lord, he raised up Ehud to deliver them, and they had peace for eighty years. But as soon as Ehud died, the Israelites again went into idolatry, and again the Lord sold them into the hands of their enemies; this time they were conquered by Jabin, king of Canaan, by whom they were mightily oppressed for twenty years, when they were delivered by Deborah and Barak; and thus matters went on for four hundred years.

2. THE "grove" that Gideon was directed to cut down was not a cluster of trees, but an image. The Century Dictionary contains the following note upon the word:—

"In the authorized version of the Bible *grove* is used erroneously—(a) As a translation (following the Septuagint and Vulgate) of the Hebrew word *Asherah* (pl. *Asherim*). The Revised Version retains *Asherah*, inserting 'or obelisk' in the margin. It is now commonly understood as meaning a divinity or an image of a divinity worshiped by lewd rites, and as a variation in form of the name *Astarte* or *Ashtaroth*."

The language of Judges 6: 25 would of itself indicate that the "grove" was not a cluster of trees. Gideon was directed to throw down the altar of Baal, "and cut down the grove that is by it." If it had been a real grove, the altar would have been by it, instead of its being by the altar. In 2 Kings 17:10 we read that the children of Israel set up groves "in every high hill and under every green tree;" and in 2 Kings 23:6 we read that Josiah "brought out the grove from the house of the Lord, without Jerusalem, unto the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and stamped it small to powder, and cast the powder thereof upon the graves of the children of the people."

LESSON III.

OCTOBER 18, 1890.

GIDEON'S VICTORY.

(Read "*Patriarchs and Prophets*," pp. 548-554.)

1. RELATE briefly the circumstances of Gideon's call to deliver Israel.
2. How did he assemble the people to fight against Midian? Judges 6 : 34, 35.
3. When the Israelites had gathered for battle, what did the Lord say to Gideon? Judges 7 : 1, 2.
4. Why did the Lord not want so many people to go to the battle? Verse 2.
5. What proclamation was Gideon directed to make? Verse 3.
6. Why were the fearful ones directed to return? Deut. 20 : 2, 3, 8.

7. What important lesson may we learn from this?—That although it was God that fought their battles, he could do nothing with faint-hearted, discouraged men. See Joshua 1 : 5-7, 9.

8. When Gideon made the required proclamation, how many people returned, and how many remained? Judges 7 : 3.

9. What did the Lord say of those that remained? Verse 4.

10. What further division of the army was Gideon directed to make? Verses 4, 5.

11. How many men were retained to fight against Midian? Verses 6-8.

12. What did God design by this to impress upon the minds of the people? 2 Chron. 14 : 11.

13. How was Gideon assured that the enemy was already virtually defeated? Judges 7 : 9-15.

14. What preparation did he then make for battle? Verse 16.

15. What order did he give to his little army? Verses 17, 18.

16. Describe the result. Verses 19-23.

17. By what was this victory gained. Heb. 11 : 32-34.

18. For what purpose was this victory recorded? Rom. 15 : 4.

19. May we have the same confidence that Gideon had? Ps. 27 : 1-3; 3 : 6.

20. By what are we to gain victories? 1 John 5 : 4, last part.

21. What is the strength which faith gives us, that we may overcome? Eph. 6 : 10.

NOTE.

FAITH is superior to reason, but not contrary to it. The most reasonable thing in the world is that man should have faith. The case of Gideon's victory shows how much more reasonable faith is than reason itself. Reason would have taken that thirty-two thousand men and massed them in one solid phalanx and hurled them on the foe. But only men of desperate courage could win in that way against fearful odds, and a large part of Gideon's army were cowards. Even if the ten thousand who were not cowards, or who were ashamed to acknowledge themselves to be such, had been able to conquer the Midianites, it would have been at a great sacrifice of human life. But now see how it worked with God's plan. When, in obedience to Gideon's directions, his men broke the vessels that concealed their torches, there stood each man sharply outlined against the darkness, apparently the leader of a division; so that to the Midianites it would seem that they were being attacked by three hundred bands of armed warriors. A panic seized them, and the victory was won without Israel's losing a man. It is easy to see the reasonableness of faith when the event is past. Then it is sight. We are permitted to see these things in order that we may learn to exercise faith when the prospect offers no hope to human eyes.

LESSON IV.

OCTOBER 25, 1890.

NEGLECT OF DUTY.

1. WHAT curse was pronounced in the midst of the inspired song sung by Deborah and Barak after the Lord had delivered Israel through them? Judges 5 : 23.

2. When people fail to do the work of the Lord, where does the loss fall? Esther 4 : 14.

3. Can a person committ a sin by doing nothing? James 4 : 17.

4. Where does one stand who is not positively on the side of Christ? Matt. 12 : 30.

5. To what did Christ once liken the kingdom of heaven? Matt. 25 : 14.

6. What did he say has been given to every man? Mark 13 : 34.

7. To what degree has each one received? Matt. 25 : 15.

8. In the parable, how are the servants represented as using that which was intrusted to them? Verses 16-18.

9. When the Lord returned to reckon with the servants, what was said to those who had worked and gained? Verses 19-23.

10. What report was brought by the man with one talent? Verses 24, 25.

11. In what terms did the master address him? Verse 26.

12. What ought the servant to have done? Verse 27.

13. Since the servant owed interest to the lord, and returned only the principal, of what was he guilty?

14. What sentence was pronounced upon the wicked and slothful servant? Verses 28-30.

15. How can it be said that from him that hath not shall be taken away that which he hath? Luke 8 : 18. See note.

16. What words of commendation did Jesus speak of a poor woman who had done a simple act? Mark 14 : 8, 9.

17. On what basis is service acceptable to God? 2 Cor. 8 : 12.

18. What does Jesus call everyone to do? Matt. 11 : 29.

19. When is it best to begin to bear the yoke? Lam. 3 : 27.

NOTE.

“FROM him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.” That is, that which he has had intrusted to him, and which he only seems to have. A man may cut quite a figure on borrowed capital; he may spend money lavishly, and get the reputation of being “a good fellow;” but when the time of reckoning comes, and the lender calls for his money, and it is found he has not a penny besides that which he borrowed, all that he has is taken away. He didn’t really own anything; he only seemed to. Now God says to us, “What hast thou that thou didst not receive?” I Cor. 4 : 7. All the talents, whether of money, influence, or intellect, with which we may be endowed, and for which people often give us credit, and of which there is such a tendency to boast, are only given us in trust, by the Lord. If we improve them, then at the last it will be found that we have something; but if we make no proper use of them, then in the day of reckoning all our possessions will be taken from us, and it will be seen that we didn’t really have anything, but only seemed to.

LESSON V.

NOVEMBER 1, 1890.

GOD REVEALED TO SAMUEL.*(Read "Patriarchs and Prophets," chap. 55.)*

1. To what was Samuel devoted before his birth? 1 Sam. 1:11.

2. How soon did his mother bring him to serve in the temple? Verses 24, 25.

3. For how long a time did his mother say he was lent to the Lord? Verse 28.

4. What did the child Samuel do in the temple? 1 Sam. 2:11, 18.

5. What was the condition of the people in those days, regarding instructions from the Lord? 1 Sam. 3:1.

6. To whom did the Lord speak? Verses 2-4.

7. Who did Samuel think was calling him? Verse 5.

8. Why did he think so? Verse 7.

9. How many times did he mistake the voice of God for that of Eli? Verses 6, 8.

10. What direction did Eli finally give him? Verse 9.

11. When the Lord called the fourth time, what did Samuel say? Verse 10.

12. What important revelation did the Lord make to him? Verses 11-14.

13. What trying duty did Samuel faithfully perform the next morning? Verses 15-18.

14. How did Samuel prosper after this? Verse 19.

15. What was made known to all the people?
Verse 20.

16. What blessing now came to the people
through Samuel? Verse 21.

17. Why was the word of the Lord revealed to
the child Samuel rather than to some of the aged
priests? Isa. 57:15; 66:2.

18. Are great men and men in high positions
necessarily safe guides? Hosea 10:13; Job 32:9;
1 Cor. 1:26.

19. Through what instrumentalities does God
work to accomplish his purposes? 1 Cor. 1:27.

20. To whom does he reveal his great truths?
Matt 11:25.

21. Out of whose mouth has he perfected praise?
Matt 21:16.

22. Why does God work through such humble
instruments? 1 Cor. 1:27-29.

23. Then if we would be used to his glory, how
must we become? Matt. 18:3; Mark 10:15.

LESSON VI.

NOVEMBER 8, 1890.

ELI AND HIS SONS.

(Read "*Patriarchs and Prophets*," chap. 56.)

1. WHAT kind of men were Eli's sons? 1 Sam.
2:12. See note 1.

2. Give an instance of their lawlessness? Verses
13-17.

3. In what did the great wickedness of this
course consist? Verse 17.

4. Did Eli know of their wickedness? Verse 22.
5. How did he remonstrate with them? Verses 23-25.
6. What effect did this have? Verse 25.
7. What did the Lord, through a prophet, say that Eli was guilty of doing in allowing his sons to pursue their wicked course? Verse 29.
8. What did the Lord say that he would do, because of this disregard for him? Verses 30-34.
9. When the Lord, through Samuel, foretold judgments upon Eli, what reason did he give why they should come? 1 Sam. 3:13.
10. How grievous was the sin? Verse 14.
11. From verse 13 what may we learn as to what Eli ought to have done? *Ans.*—He ought to have restrained his sons.
12. What exhortation is given by the apostle Paul? Eph. 6:4.
13. What assurance is given those who do restrain their children from evil? Prov. 22:6.
14. How should this training be conducted? Deut. 6:6, 7. See note 2.
15. Is it proper to exercise authority if children are not inclined to learn the right way? Gen. 18:19.
16. What did the Lord say would be the result of thus commanding the children?—*Ib.*
17. Yet what admonition must always be borne in mind? Col. 3:21.
18. What admonition to masters is also applicable to parents? Eph. 6:9, first part.
19. What will be the result to the parent of a child that is not restrained? Prov. 29:15.

20. What warning should parents take from the case of Eli and his sons? See 1 Sam. 2:29-31; 3:13, 14. *Ans.*—They may learn that they are held responsible for the sins which their children commit through lack of proper restraint.

NOTES.

1. "Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial." The word "belial" (accent on the first syllable) is capitalized in the translation of the Old Testament, as though it were a proper name, and is doubtless commonly thought to be an appellative of Satan. But it is really only a common noun, a compound of two Hebrew words, and means worthlessness. The sons of Eli would be spoken of in these days as good-for-nothing fellows.

2. "THOU shalt teach them diligently unto thy children." Literally, thou shalt whet or sharpen them into thy children. The idea is that the truths should be presented to the children in so pointed a manner that they will find an entrance, and that the minds of the children must be sharpened by continual contact with the truth of God.

LESSON VII.

NOVEMBER 15, 1890.

NO OPEN VISION.

1. WHAT is said of the word of the Lord in the days when Samuel was a child? 1 Sam. 3:1.

2. What is the result when there is no vision from the Lord? Prov. 29:18.

3. What people are in good condition?—*It.*, last part.

4. Since people perish where there is no vision, but do not perish where they keep the law, what must we conclude? *Ans.*—That where there is no vision the law is not kept.

5. How was it when there was no vision, in the days of Samuel and Eli? 1 Sam. 2:17, 24.

6. Is the fact that there is no open vision the primary cause of lawlessness? or is disregard for God and his law responsible for there being no direct revelation from God? Rom. 1:21.

7. What do men do to the truth by unrighteousness? Verse 18. See Revised Version, and note 2.

8. What hindered the people in Christ's day from beholding some of his mighty works? Matt. 13:54-58; note especially the last verse.

9. What is the great characteristic quality of sin? Heb. 3:13.

10. Unto whom is light given? Ps. 97:11; 112:4.

11. In order to retain the light that we have, what must we do? John 12:35, 36.

12. What, then, can be said of the path of those who walk in the light? Prov. 4:18.

13. To what people will the true doctrine be revealed? John 7:17.

14. What is meant by the expression, "If any man will do his will"? See note 3.

15. Cite a case illustrating this. Acts 10:1-6.

16. What is joined with the commandments of God? Rev. 12:17.

17. What is the testimony of Jesus? Rev. 19:10.

18. Then what will those have whose hearts are inclined to keep the commandments? See note 4.

19. If one would be free from offense toward God and man, what must he accept? Acts 24:14-16.

20. What is said of those who do the commandments? Ps. 111:10.

21. And how will those fare who believe the prophets of God? 2 Chron. 20:20.

NOTES.

1. "THE word of the Lord was precious in those days." That which is rare is precious. The word of the Lord to the people in those days was very rare; it was seldom heard, because there was "no open vision," literally, no vision spread abroad. There were doubtless many who would have been glad to receive the word of the Lord, but they were deprived of it by the wickedness of those in high position. Doubtless the fact that the word of God was so rare in those days made it doubly dear to those who had it.

2. "WHO hold the truth in unrighteousness." The word "hold" is not used in this case in the sense of professing. The text does not convey the idea that men may possess the truth and cling to it, and yet live unrighteous lives; for the Scripture testimony is abundant to show that men who do not practice a truth soon lose the knowledge of it. The word "hold" is used in the common sense of *restrain*, keep back; as one holds another, when he restrains him of his liberty. Wicked men, especially if they are in the church, restrain the truth of God. Paul said that the name of God was blasphemed because of the unrighteous deeds of the Jews who made their boast in the law and yet

broke it; and he asked the brethren to pray that the word might have free course. The sons of Eli by their wickedness held back the word of God from the people.

3. "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine." This evidently does not mean that if a man does the will of God he shall know of the doctrine, for he couldn't do the will of God unless he knew the doctrine. The meaning is that if anyone is disposed to do the will of God, he will not be left in ignorance. The Revised Version makes it plain by rendering the text, "If any man willeth to do his will, he shall know of the teaching."

4. THE law and the testimony, which is the spirit of prophecy, are closely and inseparably joined. Each upholds the other. If anyone is disposed to do the will of God, the word of God will be revealed to him; and by the light of the word given through the prophets, he knows better what God's will is, and how to do it. The perfect gospel is contained in the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.

LESSON VIII.

NOVEMBER 22, 1890.

THE ARK TAKEN.

(Read "*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 581-588.)

1. WHAT was the result of a battle between the Israelites and the Philistines, that was fought near Ebenezer? 1 Sam. 4: 1, 2.

2. What did the elders of Israel decide to do to guard against a like result another time? Verses 3, 4.

3. When the ark came, how was it received? Verse 5.

4. How did the Philistines feel when they heard that the ark of God had come into the camp of Israel? Verses 6-8.

5. With what words did they encourage one another? Verse 9.

6. What was the result of the battle that followed? Verses 10, 11.

7. What may we learn from this? *Ans.*—That the mere possession of the truth of God will not protect anybody. See note 1.

8. Yet what will the truth be to some in the day of trouble? Ps. 91:4.

9. Where must a person have the truth in order to receive benefit from it? Ps. 37:31; 1:1-3.

10. When men who make their boast in the law are guilty of violating it, what is the result? Rom. 2:23, 24.

11. What naturally resulted from the Israelites' wrong use of the ark? *Ans.*—The Philistines lost their fear of it, and of God, whom it represented.

12. How did the Philistines dishonor the ark? 1 Sam. 5:1, 2.

13. How did God assert the supremacy of his law? Verse 3.

14. What proved that this was no chance occurrence? Verses 4-7.

15. What was there in this that was calculated to show to the Philistines the vanity of their idols? See note 2.

16. What does the Lord say of the idols of the heathen? Ps. 115:4-7.

17. What of those who make them and trust in them? Verse 8.

NOTES.

1. THE fact that Israel was defeated notwithstanding the presence of the ark of God, is designed to show that the truth is not to be used as a charm. The possession of a cart load of Bibles will not keep anyone from harm or from the assault of the enemy of souls. It is only when the truth is hidden in the heart, and is a part of the life, that it acts as a shield, to quench all the fiery darts of the enemy.

2. A MOST striking point against the vanity of idols is made in the description of the downfall of Dagon before the ark. Dagon was an idol with the body of a fish, and the head and hands of a man. When the idol fell before the ark and lost his head and his hands, only the fishy portion remained. The record says that "only Dagon was left to him." Now the word "Dagon" is the diminutive of the Hebrew word for *fish*, so that we have in reality the statement that when Dagon fell before the ark and lost his head and his hands, "only a little fish was left." That is all that there was to the idol in which the Philistines trusted.

LESSON IX.

NOVEMBER 29, 1890.

DESIRING A KING.

(Read "*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 603-608.)

1. WHAT did Samuel do when he was old? 1 Sam. 8: 1.
2. What kind of judges were his sons? Verse 3.
3. What did this give the elders of Israel an excuse for doing? Verses 4, 5.

4. How did Samuel feel about the matter? Verse 6.

5. What did the Lord tell Samuel to do? Verse 7.

6. Whom did he say the people were rejecting? —*B.*

7. With whom did Samuel have the honor of sharing reproach? Verse 8.

8. In yielding to the request of the elders, what was Samuel to do? Verse 9.

9. What did he say their king would do to them? Verses 10–18.

10. Did this recital deter the people from their purpose? Verse 19.

11. What reason did they give for desiring a king? Verse 20.

12. Was it in accordance with God's design that they should be like the nations around them? Deut. 14: 2.

13. Was it to their detriment that the Lord wished them to be a peculiar people? Ex. 19: 5, 6; Deut. 26: 18, 19.

14. What was to make them so high above other nations that the nations themselves would notice it? Deut. 4: 5, 6.

15. Then in desiring to be like the nations around them, what were they doing? *Ans.*—Depriving themselves of their source of superior greatness, and putting themselves on a level with those nations.

16. Against what do the Scriptures give warning? Ps. 146: 3.

17. What is better than putting confidence in princes? Ps. 118:8, 9.

18. Upon whom is a curse pronounced? Jer. 17:5, 6.

19. What blessing is pronounced upon the one who trusts in the Lord? Verses 7, 8.

NOTE.

THE strength of Israel lay in that which made them different from other nations. When they became dissatisfied, and wanted to be "like other people," they were simply expressing a wish to be put on a level with them. But that was to make them much inferior to the nations around them; for the Israelites were but few in comparison with the other nations, and in a contest depending only on human strength, numbers would of course gain the victory. If it had not been that God did not cast off his people when they rejected him, the nation of Israel would soon have been blotted from existence.

LESSON X.

DECEMBER 6, 1890.

SAUL CHOSEN TO BE KING.

(Read "*Patriarchs and Prophets*," pp. 608-614.)

1. GIVE a description of Saul, and of the position of his family. 1 Sam. 9:1, 2.

2. Relate the circumstances of the first meeting of Samuel and Saul. Verses 3-14.

3. How had the Lord prepared Samuel for the meeting? Verses 15-17.

4. When Saul asked Samuel where the seer's

house was, what reply did he receive? Verses 18-20.

5. What disposition was manifested in Saul's rejoinder? Verse 21; chap. 15: 17.

6. How did Samuel honor his young visitor? 1 Sam. 9: 22-25.

7. What did Samuel do to Saul the next morning? Verses 25-27; chap. 10: 1.

8. What predictions did Samuel make to show that this was done by divine authority? Verses 2-6.

9. What instruction was given him? Verses 7, 8.

10. How was this anointing confirmed? Verses 17-25.

11. What did the prophet say should happen to Saul when the Spirit of the Lord came upon him? Verse 6.

12. In relating the fulfillment of this prediction, what other term is used? Verse 9.

13. How necessary is it for men to undergo this change? Rom. 8: 7, 8; John 3: 3, 5.

14. For what purpose does God make men new creatures? 2 Cor. 5: 17; Eph. 2: 10.

15. Do good works have anything to do in bringing about the new birth? Titus 3: 3-8.

16. How do we have access to this grace? Rom. 5: 1, 2.

17. Is there any danger of falling after having received this grace? Rom. 11: 20, 21; 1 Cor. 10: 12.

LESSON XI.

DECEMBER 13, 1890.

THE SIN OF REBELLION.*(Read "Patriarchs and Prophets," chap. 61.)*

1. How active did Saul show himself in behalf of Israel? 1 Sam. 14 : 47, 48.

2. How did he fulfill Samuel's prediction made to the people when they desired a king? Verse 52.

3. What message did Samuel bring him from the Lord concerning Amalek? 1 Sam. 15 : 1-3.

4. What word of God was Saul thus to be the agent of fulfilling? Ex. 17 : 14.

5. How did Saul obey the message? 1 Sam. 15 : 4, 5, 7-9.

6. How did Samuel feel when told of Saul's disobedience? Verses 10, 11.

7. How did Saul greet Samuel when they met? Verse 13.

8. With what words did Samuel convict him of disobedience? Verse 14.

9. How did Saul attempt to justify himself? Verse 15.

10. What did Samuel reply? Verses 16-19.

11. What attempt at self-justification did Saul again make? Verses 20, 21.

12. What did Samuel say that the Lord desires more than sacrifice? Verse 22.

13. Is the Lord richer for any so-called sacrifice that people make? Ps. 50 : 8-12.

14. Will the greatest sacrifice that a man can make atone for sin? Micah 6 : 6-8.

15. What is an acceptable sacrifice to God? Ps. 51 : 17; Rom. 12 : 1.

16. Since a sacrifice itself, no matter how costly, cannot atone for sin, what must be the case when the sacrifice itself is a sin?

17. What did Samuel say of rebellion and stubbornness? 1 Sam. 15 : 23.

18. What is witchcraft? See note.

19. Into whose power does one put himself when he rebels against God? John 8 : 44; 1 John 3 : 8.

20. Then whose working will surely be accepted by those who persist in going contrary to the commandments of God. 2 Thess. 2 : 9-12.

NOTE.

THE following definitions from Webster's dictionary make sufficiently clear the meaning of witchcraft:—

“*Witchcraft*. 1. The practice of witches; sorcery; enchantments; intercourse with evil spirits.”

“*Sorcery*. Divination by the assistance, or supposed assistance, of evil spirits, or the power of commanding evil spirits; magic; enchantment; witchcraft.”

“*Enchantment*. 1. The art of producing certain wonderful effects by the invocation or aid of demons, or the agency of certain supposed spirits; the use of magic arts, spells, or charms; incantations.”

Another synonym is “necromancy,” which is thus defined:—

“The art of revealing future events by means of a pretended communication with the dead; the art of magic; conjuration; enchantment.”

LESSON XII.

DECEMBER 20, 1890.

DAVID CHOSEN TO BE KING.*(Read "Patriarchs and Prophets," chap. 62.)*

1. WHEN Saul persisted in having his own way, what did God do? 1 Sam. 15 : 26.

2. To whom did Samuel say the kingdom had been given? Verses 27, 28.

3. What were the relations of Saul and Samuel from that time on? Verses 34, 35.

4. What did the Lord tell Samuel to do instead of mourning for Saul? 1 Sam. 16 : 1.

5. What was he told to do in order that he might not fall under the suspicion of Saul? Verses 2, 3.

6. What took place on his arrival at Bethlehem? Verses 4, 5.

7. What did Samuel think when he saw Jesse's eldest son? Verse 6.

8. How was he corrected? Verse 7.

9. How many of Jesse's sons were made to pass before Samuel? Verses 8-10.

10. Where was the youngest? Verse 11.

11. When David came what took place? Verses 12, 13.

12. Although David was anointed king, what did he continue to do? Verses 14-19, especially verse 19.

13. In making estimate of men's character, upon what does God look? Verse 7.

14. What is God able to discern? Ps. 139 : 1-4; Heb. 4 : 12.

15. What determines the character of one's actions? Luke 6 : 45.

16. Since we cannot read the hearts of one another, what are we forbidden to do? Matt. 7 : 1, 2; James 4 : 11.

17. Of what are our words the index? Matt. 12 : 34, 35.

18. Then what may be known of one who is frequently uttering suspicions and expressing harsh judgment of others? *Ans.*—That he himself has an evil heart.

LESSON XIII.

DECEMBER 27, 1890.

A MAN AFTER GOD'S HEART.

1. WHEN Saul was rejected from being king, to whom did Samuel say the kingdom was given? 1 Sam. 15 : 28.

2. What further testimony was given concerning David? Acts 13 : 21, 22.

3. Was David called a man after God's own heart because he had no sin? Rom. 3 : 9, 10, 23.

4. How only can men be free from sin? 1 John 5 : 4; Heb. 11 : 6.

5. What did David find? Acts 7 : 46.

6. What is accomplished by the grace; or favor, of God? Titus 3 : 4-7.

7. What fruits are the result of the grace of God? Gal. 5 : 22.

8. What is characteristic of the heart of God? Micah 7:18; Ps. 103:8.

9. Then what must characterize a man who is after, or according to, God's heart? *Ans.*—A forgiving disposition.

10. When David knew that Saul was seeking his life, how did he treat Saul when he had him in his power? 1 Sam. 23:9, 14; 24:1-7.

11. What did David say that he would not do to Saul? 1 Sam. 24:10-12.

12. What acknowledgment did Saul make concerning David? Verses 17, 18.

13. Notwithstanding Saul's persistent attempts to kill David, how did David feel when Saul died? 2 Sam. 1:17-24.

14. When, in the height of his power, David was reproved of sin, how did he accept it? 2 Sam. 12:13; Ps. 51:1-3.

15. What are the sacrifices of God? Ps. 51:17.

16. With whom does the Lord dwell? Isa. 57:15.

17. When God dwells with a man, what does that show? Amos 3:3.

18. Name, then, two characteristics that make a man according to God's heart. *Ans.*—A tender, compassionate disposition, long-suffering, and slowness to retaliate; and a willingness to acknowledge a fault.

THE ILLUSTRATED
YOUNG PEOPLE'S LIBRARY

IS DESIGNED TO FURNISH

Good, Wholesome Reading Matter for the Young.

WRASHY LITERATURE is often read because the attention has not been directed to something better. The children will read something, and how much better to have their tastes cultivated so that they will desire to read books of an elevating character. Such reading matter will be furnished from month to month in the **Young People's Library**, and we confidently appeal to parents to aid us in this enterprise.

Every volume is read and criticised by a large Editorial Committee, and we can promise that the issues of this **LIBRARY** will be free from objectionable matter. A wide range of subjects will be covered, including History, Biography, Travel, etc. Future issues will embrace the following:—

"Conquering Difficulties."

"Savonarola, the Florentine Martyr."

"Life of Eld. J. G. Matteson."

"Studies in Astronomy."

"Life on the Congo."

"Life of Huss."

Each number will be illustrated, will contain about 160 pages, and will be complete in itself. There will be two styles of binding—paper and cloth.

PRICES { Paper Covers, post-paid.....25 cts.
Cloth " "50 "

Address,

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING CO.,

OAKLAND, CAL.

Or, 43 Bond St., New York.

Our Little Friend

THIS IS THE TITLE OF

A NEAT, FOUR-PAGE WEEKLY PAPER

PUBLISHED FOR THE LITTLE FOLKS.

IT is especially adapted to children under nine years of age, and contains every week such stories and wholesome reading as all Christian parents will be pleased to place in the hands of their children.

Each paper will also contain a Sabbath-school lesson especially adapted to the little ones, and a series on

— ❖ “The Life of Christ,” ❖ —

Has been prepared and is now appearing in the paper.

The little sheet has met with much favor wherever introduced, and we desire to extend its sphere of usefulness until it shall reach many thousands of other homes.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

Single Copies, per year (52 numbers).....	50 cts.
In Clubs of 5 to 10, to ONE ADDRESS, each.....	45 “
“ “ 10 or more, “ “ “	40 “

Sample copies and order sheets sent free on application.
Address,

OUR LITTLE FRIEND,

P. O. Box 1534.

OAKLAND, CAL.

THE SENTINEL LIBRARY.

A Monthly Publication,

Treating upon the Various Phases of
The National Reform Movement, ♦ ♦ ♦
♦ The Union of Church and State, ♦
♦ ♦ ♦ and Civil and Religious Liberty.

The following numbers are now ready :—

- No. 1. The National Reformed Constitution. Price, 3 cents
- No. 2. Religious Liberty. Price, 1 cent.
- No. 3. Evils of Religious Legislation. Price, 1 cent.
- No. 4. The Blair Sunday Rest Bill. Price, 7 cents.
- No. 5. The Blair Educational Amendment. Price, 3 cents.
- No. 6. Purity of National Religion. Price, 1 cent.
- No. 7. National Reform and Rights of Conscience. 2 cts.
- No. 8. The American Papacy. Price, 2 cents.
- No. 9. The Salem Witchcraft. Price, 1 cent.
- No. 10. National Reform is Church and State. Price, 2 cents.
- No. 11. What Think Ye of Christ? Price, 1 cent.
- No. 12. Bold and Base Avowal. Price, 2 cents.
- No. 13. The National Reform Movement an Absurdity.
Price, 2 cents.
- No. 14. The Republic of Israel. Price, 1 cent.
- No. 15. National Reformed Presbyterianism. Price, 4 cents.
- No. 16. A Lutheran View of National Reform. 3 cents.
- No. 17. Religion and the Public Schools. Price, 4 cents.
- No. 19. Rev. W. F. Crafts against the Editors of the American Sentinel. Price, 10 cents.
- No. 20. Romanism and Civil Liberty. Price, 4 cents.
- No. 21. Why we Oppose Religious Legislation. Price, 3 cts.
- No. 22. The American Sabbath Union and Human Rights.
Price, 1 cent.
- No. 23. A Civil Sunday Holiday. Price, 1 cent.
- No. 24. Blair's Sunday Rest Bill and Joint Resolution, introduced Dec. 9, 1889. (Exact copies with notes.)
Price, 1 cent.
- No. 25. Civil Government and the Decalogue. Price, 1 cent.
- No. 26. National Reform Success Means Religious Persecution. Price, 1 cent.
- No. 27. The National Sunday Law. Price, 25 cents.
- No. 28. A Religious Political Movement. Price, 1 cent.
- No. 29. Arguments on the Breckinridge Sunday Bill. 10 cts.

Sent post-paid on receipt of price. Address all orders to

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING CO.,

Twelfth and Castro Sts., OAKLAND, CAL.

Or, 48 Bond St., New York.

• ♦ THE ♦ •

AMERICAN SENTINEL,

AN EIGHT-PAGE WEEKLY JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO

The Defense of American Institutions, the Preservation of the United States Constitution as it is, so far as Regards Religion or Religious Tests, and the Maintenance of Human Rights, Civil and Religious.

It will Ever be Uncompromisingly Opposed to Anything tending toward a UNION OF CHURCH AND STATE, Either in Name or in Fact.

IT is well known that there is a large and influential association in the United States bearing the name of the "National Reform Association," which is endeavoring to secure such a

Religious Amendment to the Constitution

Of the United States as will "place all Christian laws, institutions, and usages, on an undeniable legal basis in the fundamental law of the land."

While there are many persons in this country who are opposed to, or look with suspicion upon, this movement, there are few, outside of the party, who realize what the influence of this amendment would be. The object of the AMERICAN SENTINEL will be to

Vindicate the Rights of American Citizens,

Which, we believe, are threatened by this association. It will appeal to the very fundamental principles of our Government, and point out the consequences which would be sure to follow should they secure the desired Amendment to the Constitution.

Every position taken will be carefully guarded and fortified by sound argument. Due respect will always be paid to the opinions of others, but

The Rights of Conscience will be Fearlessly Maintained.

TERMS:

Single Copy, per year, post-paid.....	\$1.00
In Clubs of 10 or more, per copy, per year,75
The Sentinel for one year with "Prophetic Lights," paper cover, post-paid.....	1.50
The Sentinel one year with the 500-page, "popular," illustrated "Great Controversy," cloth, post-paid.....	2.15
To Foreign Countries, single subscription, post-paid.....	5s
Specimen Copies Free.	

Address, **AMERICAN SENTINEL,**

43 Bond Street, New York.