

# Promise and Deliverance Student Workbook

Volume 6

Level 2

Harvey De Groot

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# Preface

When S.G. De Graaf wrote his four-volume series, *Promise and Deliverance*, he showed educators how to teach Bible stories from a redemptive-historical perspective. Rather than turning Bible stories into moralistic tales, De Graaf taught us how all the Bible shows God revealing himself as the God of the covenant, who is working out His redemptive plan for humanity and all of creation.

The 80 workbooks written by Harvey De Groot are meant to supplement De Graaf's work. They are divided by volume and level number: 20 volumes with four levels per volume. Workbook lessons are written at four levels so that families with students in various grades can study the same Bible stories during the week in preparation for their classes on Sunday. Prior to class, the Sunday School teacher should study the lesson in De Graaf's book. The teacher and students can go through the workbook during class.

The levels are divided according to the following grades:

- **Level One:** Grades K-1
- **Level Two:** Grades 2-3
- **Level Three:** Grades 4-6
- **Level Four:** Grades 7-8

Each volume contains 12 or 13 lessons, and each lesson has the following sections:

- **Reference:** The volume and lesson number in De Graaf's series.
- **Scripture:** The passage from Scripture on which the lesson is based.
- **Memory Verse:** A memory verse related to the lesson
- **Lesson Truth:** A short statement to help the class focus on the main point of the lesson.
- **Lesson:** The lesson itself, which the teacher can read in class. For older grades, the teacher may opt to assign it as homework.
- **Questions:** Items to be discussed in class. For older grades, the teacher can assign these questions as homework but should also use them as a basis for class discussion. These are not the only questions that could or should be asked. Teachers should encourage students to come with their own questions as well.

This edition was written by Harvey De Groot and edited by his son Norlan De Groot.



## Lesson 1

# The Earth Is the Lord's

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 1

**Scripture:** Judges 1–5

**Memory Verse:** “So the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the Lord which he had done for Israel.” (Judges 2:7)

**Lesson Truth:** The Lord wanted the land of Canaan to be used for worshipping Him only.

### Lesson

The Lord gave the land of Canaan to Israel. He wanted Israel to serve only Him in the land He had given them. The Lord wanted Israel to drive out the Canaanites. Then they would not be tempted to serve other gods. The tribes of Judah and Simeon began the task of driving out the Canaanites. But they did not complete the task. They were afraid to attack the Canaanites in the valleys, because they had iron chariots. They did not have the faith to believe that God could overthrow their enemies. The other tribes were not any more faithful. So the Canaanites remained in the land. The children of Israel mixed with the people of the land and started worshipping their gods.

Was the Lord silent all this time? He certainly was not! We are told the Angel of the Lord came from Gilgal and went to Bochim. There He met with the people of Israel. He reminded them of the covenant He had made with them. He assured them he would never break the covenant. But He also told them what would happen because they broke the covenant. The Angel of the Lord said he would no longer drive out their enemies. The enemies would be thorns in their side. They would be a snare to Israel. Yet this judgment was an act of mercy. The Angel of the Lord said the new generations would learn from enemy attacks. They would repent and call on the name of the Lord.

The Israelites did evil in the sight of the Lord and worshipped Baals. They forgot the God of their fathers. The Lord then allowed their enemies to harm them. They suffered until they were sorry for their sins and called on the name of the Lord. Then the Lord sent judges to deliver them. The first judge he sent was Othniel the brother of faithful Caleb. He was filled with the Spirit of the Lord. Othniel delivered the Israelites from the king of Mesopotamia. He helped Israel have peace for 40 years.

Our hearts break when the Bible tells us: “The children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord. This time the Lord strengthened Moab to oppress Israel. The Moabites oppressed Israel until they again repented and called on the name of the Lord. This time the Lord sent the judge Ehud to deliver His people. Ehud used deceit to get to king Eglon of Moab. He pretended to have an important message for the king. But when he was alone with the king he drove a dagger into his stomach. This was an awful thing to do. Yet the Lord used this deed to begin to deliver Israel. The Israelites had peace for 8 years after Moab was defeated.

God used the judge Shamgar for a skirmish against the Philistines. He attacked the Philistines with an oxgoad and killed 600 of them. He showed how little respect he had for the Philistines.

It is sad that after these victories God’s people still forgot. We read the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord. Now the Lord sent Jabin king of Canaan to oppress Israel. He wanted them to call on the name of the Lord. When Jabin oppressed them they did call on the name of the Lord. This time the Lord sent Deborah, the prophetess, as judge. Deborah called on Barak to go against Sisera the commander of Jabin’s army. But Barak was afraid. He did not believe the Lord could overcome the iron chariots of Sisera. Deborah told him she would go with him into battle. But the Lord would give Sisera into the hands of a woman.

That is what happened. The Lord defeated Sisera and his iron chariots. As he ran from the battle he came to the tent of Jael. Jael was a woman who believed the God of Israel could defeat His enemies. She invited Sisera into her tent to rest. While he rested she drove a tent peg through his temples. Following this victory Deborah and Barak sang a song of praise. They praised God for the victories over their enemies. They knew that God lived among His people. They knew that those who believe in the Christ will be victorious for eternity.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. “Then the Angel of the Lord came up from \_\_\_\_\_ to Bochim.” (Judges 2:1)
2. “I said, I will never break My \_\_\_\_\_ with you.” (Judges 2:1b)
3. “So the people served the \_\_\_\_\_ all the days of Joshua.” (Judges 2:7a)

4. “Then the children of Israel did \_\_\_\_\_ in the sight of the Lord, and served the Baals.” (Judges 2:11)
  
5. “When the children of Israel cried out to the Lord, the Lord raised up a \_\_\_\_\_ for the children of Israel.” (Judges 3:9)
  
6. “Hear, O kings! Give ear O princes! I, even I, will \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord;” (Judges 5:3)

## Lesson 2

# The Reign of Grace

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 2

**Scripture:** Judges 6–9

**Memory Verse:** “Then the Lord said to Gideon, ‘By the three hundred men who lapped I will save you, and deliver the Midianites into your hand. Let all the other people go, every man to his place.’” (Judges 7:7)

**Lesson Truth:** Gideon was victorious because he lived under the rule of God’s mercy.

### Lesson

The Lord gave Israel the victory over Jabin king of Canaan. This victory came under the leadership of Deborah and Barak. Yet we read that the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord. Once again God’s people forgot Him and followed Baal. They worshipped Baal and Astarte the gods of the forces of nature. Israel forgot God, but God remained true to His word. God said he would not drive out their enemies if they served Baal. God again sent an enemy. This time he sent the Midianites to trouble Israel.

The Midianites were people who roamed from place to place. Instead of growing crops they would steal produce to live. They raided the children of Israel and took both crops and livestock. They raided so often that the Israelites began hiding in caves for protection. This made the children of Israel poor and desolate. Then they cried out to the Lord. They did not put away all the gods of Canaan. Yet for Christ’s sake God heard their cries. He sent a prophet to instruct them. This prophet reminded them of God’s faithfulness and their unfaithfulness.

The Lord also showed His mercy by sending another judge. He called Gideon the son of Joash to lead Israel against the Midianites. Gideon was a humble man and did not think he was qualified to lead Israel. He reminded the Angel of the Lord that he was the youngest in the family of a poor clan. The Angel then assured him that victory would come from the Lord and not from the leader he had chosen. Gideon then asked for a sign that it was really the Lord who spoke to him. The Lord gave him a sign when he had fire come out from a rock and consume the food Gideon had prepared. Gideon was then afraid he would die because he had seen the Lord. The Angel then told him he would not die and promised him peace. In response Gideon built an altar and called it, “The Lord Is Peace.”

Now Gideon was ready to do the Lord's work. He took ten men and went at night to pull down the altar to Baal in his father's house. When the men of the city discovered what Gideon had done they wanted to kill him. But the Spirit of the Lord also worked in his father, Joash. His father told the men of the city that Baal was a god. He could defend himself. In this way Gideon was spared. Yet before Gideon was ready to fight the Midianites he had to struggle with his own unbelief.

Gideon wanted to be certain that the Lord, and not Baal, controlled the forces of nature. Again he asked the Lord for a sign. He asked that the Lord make a fleece of wool wet with dew while the earth around it remained dry. The Lord granted his request and made fleece wet and the ground dry. Then Gideon asked that the sign be reversed. He asked that the ground be wet and the fleece be dry. The Lord granted this request as well. Now Gideon knew that the Lord, and not Baal, controlled the forces of nature. In this way the Lord prepared Gideon to do battle with the Midianites.

The Lord had one more lesson to teach Gideon. He had to know that the Midianites would be defeated by the Lord and not by military might. So the Lord had Gideon send home all the soldiers who were afraid. This left a small army of 10,000 soldiers. Yet this was too many for the battle the Lord had planned. He then had Gideon bring his soldiers to a stream to drink. Gideon was told to take only the 300 men who lapped with their tongue. With a band of three hundred carrying pitchers, trumpets, and a torch the Lord defeated the Midianites. When the small band blew the trumpets, and broke the pitchers around the torches, the Midianites killed each other. God in His grace defeated the enemies of his people.

Gideon easily defeated the Midianites and captured their two kings. He said he would have spared the lives of these kings if they had not killed his brothers. This showed that Gideon did not see them as enemies of the Lord. He passed this wrong spirit on to his son Abimelech. In this way he and Abimelech rejected the reign of the Lord's grace. The Canaanite kings were judged for rejecting the kingship of Christ. One day the Lord will judge everyone who has not honored Christ as king.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "Then the children of Israel did \_\_\_\_\_ in the sight of the Lord."  
(Judges 6:1a)
2. "So the Lord delivered them into the hand of \_\_\_\_\_ for seven years." (Judges 6:1b)

3. “Now \_\_\_\_\_ perceived that He was the Angel of the Lord.” (Judges 6:22)
  
4. The Lord said, “Take your father’s young bull, the second bull of seven years and tear down the altar of \_\_\_\_\_ that your father has, and cut down the wooden image beside it.” (Judges 6:25b)
  
5. “Then the \_\_\_\_\_ said to Gideon, ‘By the 300 men who lapped I will save you.’” (Judges 7:7)
  
6. “It happened on the same night that the Lord said to him. ‘Arise go down to the camp, for I have \_\_\_\_\_ it into your hand.’” (Judges 7:9)

## Moved by Israel's Misery

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 3

**Scripture:** Judges 10–12

**Memory Verse:** “When you make a vow to God, do not delay to pay it; for He has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you have vowed.” (Ecclesiastes 5:4)

**Lesson Truth:** Even when God's people have sinned, He is touched by the misery this brings.

### Lesson Explanation:

God loved His people. When they sinned against God, He would allow an enemy to oppress them. Then they would cry out to God for deliverance. And God would send a judge as a deliverer. God sent Othniel, Ehud, Shamgar, Deborah, and Gideon as judges before Jephthah. Each one delivered God's people in different way.

Do you know what is sad? The Bible tells us the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord. Even after the Lord delivered them from their enemies so many times. Do you know what evil the children of Israel did in the sight of the Lord? They worshipped other gods. They worshipped gods that the Canaanites thought controlled nature. God's people should have known that only God controls nature. Then God sent some enemies to oppress them. He sent the Ammonites and the Philistines to hurt Israel. They stole crops and animals from God's people. They stole so much that God's people tried to hide their crops and animals. These enemies made the Israelites very poor. Then do you know what God's people did? They cried out to God for deliverance.

This time God did not send a deliverer right away. He told them they had rejected God and served other gods. He then told them to cry out to the gods they served. He said to His people. “Let these gods deliver you.” Then God's people were sorry they had rejected Him. They told God they had sinned. They even put away the idols they had worshipped. Then we read about the God who loved his people. The Bible tells us that His soul could not endure the misery of His people. That meant that His heart broke because His people suffered.

Now God sent another deliverer. He sent Jephthah, a son of Gilead. Jephthah's brothers had sent him away from home because he was their half brother. They did not want him to get any inheritance from their father. But Jephthah was a mighty man of war. His brothers asked who could fight the Ammonites? Then they thought about Jephthah. They sent elders to ask him to fight the Ammonites. He said he

would fight the Ammonites if his brothers would make him their commander. His brothers said he could be their commander.

Then Jephthah asked the king of Ammon to make peace. He told the king he could have all the land that his god had given him. He said Israel would take the land the Lord God had given them. The king of Ammon did not listen to Jephthah. Then the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jephthah. It was through the power of this Spirit that he was able to deliver Israel from Ammon. But Jephthah had some wrong thoughts. He thought he had to offer a sacrifice so he could defeat Ammon. He should have known that the Lord would give the victory. The Lord's victory is always complete. But Jephthah made a vow. He said he would sacrifice the first one who came out of his house when he returned from battle.

Think how sad he was when his daughter was the first to come and meet him. This meant he had to sacrifice his daughter. Jephthah kept his vow. He sacrificed his daughter. But this was foolish. It was foolish because the Lord Jesus earned the complete victory. Jephthah could not repay any of this debt. We must remember that Christ Jesus also won the complete victory for us. We can never repay our debt.

Jephthah had one more battle. This was with the men of Ephraim. They wanted to share the glory and honor for the victory over Ammon. They fought Jephthah but were defeated. Then they tried to sneak into Gilead. But they were caught because they could not say the word Shibboleth. Then Jephthah's soldiers put them to death. In this way the Lord judged Ephraim. He judged them because they wanted glory for themselves and not for the Lord.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "Then the children of \_\_\_\_\_ did evil in the sight of the Lord."  
(Judges 10:6)
2. "So the anger of the \_\_\_\_\_ was hot against Israel."  
(Judges 10:7)
3. "Then they said to \_\_\_\_\_, 'Come and be our commander, that we may fight against the people of Ammon.'" (Judges 11:6)
4. "So \_\_\_\_\_ advanced toward the people of Ammon to fight against them, and the Lord delivered them into his hands." (Judges 11:32)

5. “And Jephthah made a \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord.” (Judges 11:30)
  
6. “Then it will be that whatever comes out of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, shall surely be the Lord’s and I will \_\_\_\_\_ it as a burnt offering.” (Judges 11:31)

## The Mighty One of Israel

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 4

**Scripture:** Judges 13–16

**Memory Verse:** “Then Manoah prayed to the Lord, and said, ‘O my Lord, please let the Man of God whom You sent, come to us again and teach us what we shall do for the child who will be born.’” (Judges 13:8)

**Lesson Truth:** Samson, with his amazing strength, was sent by the Lord to begin to deliver Israel.

### Lesson

Today we will learn about Samson. Samson served as the judge in Israel about the same time as Jephthah. Jephthah fought the Ammonites in the east. At nearly the same time, Samson fought the Philistines in the west. Samson was known as the mighty one of Israel.

From his birth to his death, Samson was a special person. His birth was special because he was born to a woman who was not able to have children. She was the wife of Manoah from the tribe of Dan. Just think how surprised she was when the Angel of the Lord told her, she would have a son. She knew it would be a miracle for her to have a child. She was also amazed that the Angel told her that her son would be a Nazirite. This meant that her son would be consecrated to the Lord. He was not to drink strong drink. Nor could he have his hair cut. These were some of the signs that he was consecrated to the Lord. The birth of Samson was a miracle of God’s grace. God, in His grace, sent another deliverer.

There is no question that God sent Samson to deliver His people. Yet, Samson was reckless in the way he lived with the Philistines. He went down to Timnah and saw a woman he liked. He asked his parents to get this woman to be his wife. His parents did not like to get him a wife from Timnah. They did not like it because she was a Philistine. She was daughter of the enemy. They did not understand that God would use this woman to cause Samson to destroy some Philistines.

As Samson went to Timnah a lion attacked him. He killed the lion by tearing him apart. He was that strong. Later he saw that bees made honey in the carcass of the lion. This made him think of a riddle for his companions at the wedding feast. He asked them to answer to this riddle: “Out of the eater came something to eat, and out of the strong came something sweet.” He told his companions that if they could find the answer he would give them each a garment. He made them promise that if

they could not answer it, they would give him thirty garments. Do you know what his companions did? They got his Philistine wife to get the answer from Samson. This made Samson very angry. He went out and killed thirty men from Ashkelon and gave his thirty companions each a garment. This was the way God had him start to fight Israel's enemies. Samson then went back to his father's house.

While he was away the Philistines gave his wife to another man. This again made Samson very angry. He went out and caught three hundred foxes. He tied them in pairs with a fire between them. Then he tuned them into the grain of the Philistines. This destroyed their grain. The Philistines then burned his wife and her father to death. Once again Samson attacked the Philistines and he killed a great many of them. Then he went to live at the rock of Etam.

At Etam the Philistines convinced the men of Judah to capture Samson for them. Men from his own country turned against him. They tied him with ropes and gave him to the Philistines, but Samson was able to break the ropes. He then picked up a jawbone of a donkey and killed one thousand Philistines. This was the way the Lord used Samson to destroy many of His enemies.

However, Samson continued to be reckless. He went to Gaza and found another Philistine woman. While he was at Gaza the Philistines closed the city gates. They thought they had captured Samson, but at night he carried the city gates and the gateposts to the top of a hill. His great strength saved him again.

Samson's recklessness with the women of the Philistines finally caused his downfall. He fell in love with a woman named Delilah. She coaxed Samson to tell the source of his great strength. He told her that his hair could not be cut because he was a Nazirite. She then told the Philistines and they captured Samson. They then put out his eyes and made him grind in the prison. What a terrible thing to happen to a man consecrated to the Lord. The Philistines then brought him to the temple of Dagon and made fun of him. At the temple of Dagon Samson asked the Lord to give him his strength one more time. The Lord heard his prayer and restored his strength. Samson then pulled down the pillars of the temple of Dagon. He died with the Philistines as the temple fell down. He believed the Lord could restore his strength. In that faith he again became the deliverer of Israel. As a judge sent by God he pointed to the Redeemer. The Redeemer would deliver God's people from all their enemies.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "Again the children of Israel did \_\_\_\_\_ in the sight of the Lord." (Judges 13:1a)

2. “And the Lord delivered them into the hand of the \_\_\_\_\_ for forty years.” (Judges 13:1b)
3. “So the woman bore a son and called his name \_\_\_\_\_ ; and the child grew and the Lord blessed him.” (Judges 13:24)
4. “And the Spirit of the \_\_\_\_\_ began to move upon him at Mahaneh Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.” (Judges 13:25)
5. “And the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him and he tore the \_\_\_\_\_ apart as one would have torn apart a young goat.” (Judges 14:6a)
6. “So the dead that he killed at his \_\_\_\_\_ were more than he had killed in his life.” (Judges 16:30b)

## Falling and Rising

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 5

**Scripture:** Judges 17–21

**Memory Verse:** “Then the people came to the house of God, and remained there before God till evening. They lifted up their voices and wept bitterly.” (Judges 21:2)

**Lesson Truth:** By His grace, Christ causes many in Israel to rise and to fall.

### Lesson

What was life in Israel like before God sent judges to deliver them? The Bible stories of this lesson tell us how sinful God’s people had become. One story tells of idol worship in Israel. The other story tells about very sinful sexual practices in Israel. It is very sad that both stories tell about a Levite. The Levites were chosen by God to tell about His grace. In these stories we learn how they made Israel stumble and fall. God can make people rise. He can also make them fall when they forget Him.

The first story is about Micah. Micah confessed to his mother that he had stolen her silver. She then told Micah to take some of the silver and make an image. She wanted to worship the Lord through this image. Micah’s mother wanted to worship the Lord in her own way. This was a sinful way to act. God told His people not to make graven images. Yet Micah made an image as his mother asked. He then made a shrine in his house and put the image there. He made his son the priest in his shrine.

One day a Levite from Bethlehem came to Micah’s house. He said he was looking for a place to stay. Micah then asked this Levite to become his priest. He thought he was doing a good thing. He knew that God gave the office of priest to the Levites. He forgot that God wanted the priests to serve in His place of worship. They were not meant to serve in a man’s private worship center. In this way the tribe that God set aside to do His work became a curse to Israel.

The sin of Micah and the Levite spread even further. It happened when some soldiers from the tribe of Dan passed by Micah’s house. They found out that Micah had a private priest. They asked this priest to come with them. They told him it would be much better if he were a priest for a whole tribe than for just one house. The Levite went along with the soldiers from Dan. He also allowed these soldiers to take the images and the ephod from Micah’s house. The tribe of Dan then set up their own self-willed worship center. This was not the way the Lord wanted them to worship. In this way the Levite caused the whole region to stumble and fall.

The second story is about a Levite who took a concubine. This concubine ran away to her father at Bethlehem. We learn about the terrible sins of the people when the Levite went to bring her back home. As they traveled home, they came to Jebus (Jerusalem). The servant suggested they stay at Jerusalem for the night. The Levite did not want to stay there because the Canaanites live there. He wanted to go on to Gibeah because that is where God's people lived.

When they came to Gibeah an old man took them in. He would have them sleep at his house. Do you know what happened that night? Some wicked men from Gibeah came to the old man's house. They asked him to send the Levite outdoors. They wanted to do evil things with the Levite. They were just like the men of Sodom. The old man would not send out the Levite. But he did send out the concubine. They did evil things with her all night. In the morning she fell dead on the old man's doorstep. Then the Levite took her body and cut it up into twelve pieces. He sent a piece to each tribe of Israel.

The men of Israel were angry when they saw these body pieces. They promised to destroy the men of Gibeah. In their anger they destroyed almost the whole tribe of Benjamin. Only 600 men of Benjamin remained. Now they realized what they had done, and they wept before the Lord. One of the tribes of Israel was missing. Yet the Lord allowed them to find wives for the men of Benjamin at Jabesh-Gilead. The men of Jabesh-Gilead were destroyed because they did not come out to fight. These women were given to the men of Benjamin.

Why did the Lord preserve the fellowship of the tribes? It was only because of His grace in Christ Jesus. He wished to dwell with His people in spite of their sins. When the people sinned, God caused them to fall. Yet in His mercy he also caused many to rise again in Israel.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "And \_\_\_\_\_ said to him, 'Where do you come from?'" (Judges 17:9a)
2. "So he said to him, 'I am a \_\_\_\_\_ from Bethlehem in Judah.'" (Judges 17:9b)
3. "So \_\_\_\_\_ consecrated the Levite, and the young man became his priest." (Judges 17:12)

4. “So they took the things \_\_\_\_\_ had made, and the priest who had belonged to him and went to Laish.” (Judges 18:21a)
  
5. “And the old man said \_\_\_\_\_ be with you! However let all your needs be my responsibility; only do not spend the night in the open square.” (Judges 19:20)
  
6. “When he entered his house he took his knife, laid hold of his \_\_\_\_\_, and divided her into twelve pieces.” (Judges 19:29)

## The Redeemer

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 6

**Scripture:** Ruth 1–4

**Memory Verse:** “The Lord repay your work, and a full reward be given you by the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge.” (Ruth 2:12)

**Lesson Truth:** Boaz was the kinsman-redeemer who bought back the inheritance of Elimelech. He also married Ruth so Elimelech’s name would not die out.

### Lesson

The story of Ruth is a story of God’s grace. God chose Ruth to be a mother in the line of Christ. This was unusual because Ruth was a Moabite. This story shows how God was faithful to a family in Israel. This was the family of Elimelech. God was faithful even when Elimelech lost his faith. God showed His faithfulness through Boaz. Boaz became the redeemer of Elimelech’s name and his inheritance.

There was a terrible famine in the land of Israel. It was so bad that people could not find food. It was made even worse by the Midianites who invaded the land. One man of Israel did not believe God would take care of his family in this famine. So he moved his family to the land of Moab. When he did this, he left the land of his inheritance. He no longer lived in the Promised Land waiting for the Messiah.

While he was in the land of Moab, Elimelech died. Naomi his wife was now a widow with two sons. Her two sons Mahlon and Chilion married some girls from Moab. It seemed that this family lost the hope of the promised Messiah. Yet God was faithful to them. Mahlon and Chilion also died and left Naomi with her two daughters-in-law. Then Naomi heard that the famine was over in Israel. She decided to go back to Bethlehem. She told her daughters-in-law that they should stay in Moab with their families. Her daughter-in-law Orpah agreed to stay in Moab. But Ruth would not leave Naomi.

Ruth had learned about God’s covenant in her husband’s family. She did not want to leave Naomi. Even more she did not want to leave Naomi’s God. So she insisted that she would live where Naomi lived and she would die where Naomi died. This was Ruth’s beautiful confession. She wanted to be part of God’s people.

Naomi and Ruth went back to Bethlehem. When they came to Bethlehem Naomi told her family and friends to call her Mara. She said her name should be Mara because the Lord dealt bitterly with her. But she was to find out that the Lord had not forgotten her family. She realized this when Ruth went to glean grain in the

farmer's fields. The Lord led Ruth to the field of Boaz. When Boaz saw Ruth, he asked the reapers about her. They told him that she was the girl from Moab who chose to be with God's people. Then Boaz showed favors to Ruth. He told the reapers to leave extra grain for her to glean. Ruth came home with the extra grain. Then Naomi remembered the law of the kinsman-redeemer.

She remembered that God made a law that a close relative could redeem an inheritance. She told Ruth to go to Boaz at the threshing floor at night and lie at his feet. When he awoke, she was to ask him to buy back Elimelech's land. Boaz agreed to do this if another close relative would not do it. The other relative would not be the kinsman redeemer. So, Boaz bought back Elimelech's land, and he married Ruth. By marrying Ruth, it was possible to have a son who would carry on Elimelech's name.

Boaz and Ruth did have a son. They gave him the name Obed. This Obed was the father of Jesse. And Jesse was the father of David who became the king in Israel. Not only was David the king of Israel, he was also the line of Christ Jesus. Yes, God was faithful. He sent Boaz to be the kinsman-redeemer. Boaz saved the name and place of the family of Elimelech in Israel. In that way the Lord Jesus Christ saves the names of his chosen. He gives His chosen ones an eternal inheritance.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "Now it came to pass, in the days when the judges ruled that there was a \_\_\_\_\_ in the land." (Ruth 1:1a)
2. "And a certain man of Bethlehem, Judah went to dwell in the country of \_\_\_\_\_ he and his wife and his two sons." (Ruth 1:1b)
3. "But Ruth said: 'Entreat me not to leave you or to turn back from \_\_\_\_\_ you.'" (Ruth 1:16a)
4. "For wherever you go I will go, and wherever you lodge I will lodge, your \_\_\_\_\_ shall be my people and your God, my God." (Ruth 1:16b)
5. "Where you die I will die and there will I be \_\_\_\_\_." (Ruth 1:17a)

6. “Moreover \_\_\_\_\_ the Moabitess the widow of Mahlon I have acquired as my wife” (Ruth 4:10a)

## The Forerunner of the King

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 7

**Scripture:** I Samuel 1–4

**Memory Verse:** “Now the Lord came and stood and called as at other times, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel answered, ‘Speak, for your servant hears.’” (I Samuel 3:10)

**Lesson Truth:** The Lord called Samuel to get the hearts of His people ready for the coming of the king.

### Lesson

In the time of the judges Israel wanted to have a king. They wanted someone to lead them in their battles. God wanted to get His people ready for their first king. He wanted His people to trust in the Lord. He did not want them to put their trust in the king. God called Samuel to be a prophet. He wanted Samuel the prophet to get the hearts of His people ready to have a king. He wanted Samuel to get the hearts of the people to look ahead to the King, Christ Jesus.

The birth of Samuel was a miracle. It was a miracle because his mother was Hannah. Hannah was a woman who could not have any children. This made Hannah very sad. She was also sad because Penninah put her down. Penninah was Elkanah’s second wife. Elkanah loved Hannah, but she was still sad. She went along with Elkanah to the tabernacle at Shiloh. There she went into the sanctuary and prayed to God. She prayed that God would give her a son. She promised God that if He would give her a son, she would give him back to the Lord. She would bring him to the tabernacle to do the Lord’s work.

Eli saw Hannah in the sanctuary praying. He noticed that her mouth moved but no sound came out. Eli thought she had too much to drink. Then Hannah told him about her prayer to God. Now Eli became a prophet. He told Hannah that God would answer her prayer. Hannah believed the Lord could give her a son. In time God gave her a son and she called him Samuel. Samuel means he was asked of the Lord. Then Hannah sang a beautiful song of praise to God. In her song Hannah praised God for the King He would send. She was able to sing of the Christ.

God showed his favor on Hannah. Her son was called to be a prophet in Israel. But many in Israel did not follow the Lord. Eli had two sons who were very wicked. Hophni and Phinehas, Eli’s sons stole offerings made to the Lord. They took the best of the sacrifices offered to the Lord. They even did very sinful things with the

women who came to the tabernacle. Eli reminded them that they were sinning against the Lord. But their hearts were hard, so they did not listen. The sons of Eli were so bad that the time for mercy had passed. Because Eli's house led Israel away from the Lord, it would be destroyed.

God called Samuel to bring this word of judgement against Eli's house. Samuel was living at the tabernacle. One night he heard someone call, Samuel! He thought it was Eli who called, so he went to him. This happened three times. Then Eli told Samuel to answer the voice. He told Samuel to say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant hears." When the Lord called again, Samuel answered. Then the Lord told him what would happen to the house of Eli. The Lord said it would be so bad that the ears of everyone who heard it would tingle. Samuel was afraid to tell Eli about this terrible judgement. Yet he told Eli everything when he asked him what the Lord had said. Eli's response showed his faith when he said: "He is the Lord, let Him do what seems good to Him." In this way Samuel was used as the Lord's prophet. He began to lead the people back to the Lord. He told them about the Lord's covenant and His Word. Samuel prepared the people for the king whom the Lord would give them.

The judgment on the house of Eli came quickly. It happened when the elders and Hophni and Phinehas took the ark of the Lord into battle. They treated the ark of the Lord like a good luck charm. This was a very sinful thing to do. The Philistines defeated the armies of Israel. They also captured the ark of the Lord. A messenger came running to tell Eli of the defeat. When Eli heard that the ark of the Lord was captured he fell over and died. As the wife of Phinehas gave birth to a son she also died. Just before she died she named her son, "Ichabod" which means, the glory has departed. Truly the glory had departed from Israel when the ark of the Lord was taken. But God did not forget his people. Israel would rise again for the sake of Christ.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "If you will give Your maid servant a \_\_\_\_\_ child, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life." (I Sam. 1:11b)
2. "Now \_\_\_\_\_ spoke in her heart; only her lips moved." (I Sam. 1:13)
3. "And Hannah prayed and said, 'My \_\_\_\_\_ rejoices in the Lord'" (I Sam. 2:1)

4. “But \_\_\_\_\_ ministered before the Lord, even as a child.” (I Sam. 2:18a)
  
5. “And \_\_\_\_\_ answered, ‘Speak, for Your servant hears.’” (I Sam. 3:10b)
  
6. “Then it happened, when he made mention of the ark of God, that \_\_\_\_\_ fell off the seat backward by the side of the gate; and his neck was broken and he died.” (I Sam. 4:18a)

## Lesson 8

# The Return of the Lord

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 8

**Scripture:** I Samuel 5–7

**Memory Verse:** “Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name Ebenezer, saying, “Thus far the Lord has helped us.” (I Samuel 7:12)

**Lesson Truth:** The Lord left His people for a time when the ark of God was captured, now He returns to once again live in covenant with them.

### Lesson

The Philistines captured the ark of the Lord. They thought Israel would now serve them. They had captured the symbol of God’s presence. The Philistines were so happy that they brought the ark to Ashdod. Ashdod was the city where the temple of Dagon was found. Dagon was the idol god of the Philistines. They believed that Dagon gave them the victory over Israel. The Philistines would learn that God returned to His people. They would learn that Dagon could not stand before Almighty God.

The Philistines placed the ark of God in the temple of Dagon. No doubt they were excited to place the ark at the feet of their idol. Think how surprised they were when they found Dagon fallen face down before the ark. Yet they were not ready to admit that God was present. The second morning they found Dagon fallen again before the ark. This time his head and his hands were broken off. Dagon was an idol without power. Now with his head and hands off he was even more powerless. All idols are powerless before the grace of Almighty God.

Dagon fell before the ark. Now God caused the people of Ashdod to get tumors on their bodies. He also sent rats to destroy the crops of the Philistines. The destruction in Ashdod was so bad that they became afraid of the ark. They were convinced that they suffered because of the ark. So they decided to send the ark to Gath. The same destruction happened to the people of Gath. Then they sent the ark on to Ekron. The people of Ekron knew of the destruction at Ashdod and Gath. They cried out in fear. They said the ark was sent to Ekron to kill them and their people. The Philistines were forced to stand in fear of the God of grace. Yet they did not believe unto salvation.

Now the Philistines called together their priests and fortune-tellers. They thought the ark caused the destruction. Yet they were not certain. The priests told them to

send the ark back to Israel. They said it should be sent with a gift. They thought a gift could please the God of Israel. They also suggested a test to see if Israel's God was with the ark. The test was to hitch two young cows that had new calves to a cart. They would hold the calves back and see if the cows would leave their calves. If the cows would go straight to Israel, they would know that God was with the ark. Even heathen people are aware of God in a strange way. The Philistines saw the cows go straight to Israel with the ark.

The ark came to Israel at Beth-Shemesh. The people of Beth-Shemesh were very happy to see the ark. They took the wood of the cart and offered the cows as a sacrifice to the Lord. They knew that the return of the ark was a miracle of God's grace. Yet they had to learn to treat the ark with reverence. Men of Beth-Shemesh were curious and looked into the ark. Because of this fifty thousand and seventy men were killed. Now they were afraid of the ark of the Lord. They sent it on to Kiriath-Jearim to the house of Abinadab. The ark stayed at the house of Abinadab for twenty years. Then the Lord sent Samuel to judge Israel.

Samuel called on the children of Israel to turn to the Lord. He urged them to put away their idols. Then he gathered the people at Mizpah. There he cried out to the Lord for them as they went to fight the Philistines. Samuel became a mediator for God's people. His work as a mediator pointed to the Mediator, Christ Jesus our Lord. He will always stand between God's justice and our sins. Samuel made an offering to the Lord. Then the Lord caused the Philistines to flee before Israel. As a reminder of this victory, Samuel set up a stone. He called the name of the stone Ebenezer. Ebenezer meant, "Thus far the Lord has helped us." God used Samuel to teach the people the laws of His covenant.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the house of \_\_\_\_\_" (I Sam. 5:2)
2. "And when the people of Ashdod arose early in the morning, there was \_\_\_\_\_, fallen on its face to the earth before the ark of the Lord." (I Sam. 5:3a)
3. "But the hand of the \_\_\_\_\_ was heavy on the people of Ashdod, and he ravaged them and struck them with tumors." (I Sam. 5:6)

4. “Now the ark of the Lord was in the country of the \_\_\_\_\_ seven months.” (I Sam. 6:1)
  
5. “And Samuel said, ‘Gather all Israel to \_\_\_\_\_, and I will pray to the Lord for you.’” (I Sam. 7:5)
  
6. “Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name \_\_\_\_\_.” (I Sam. 7:12)

Lesson 9  
**Collision**

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 9

**Scripture:** I Samuel 8–12

**Memory Verse:** “For the Lord will not forsake His people, for His great name’s sake, because it has pleased the Lord to make you His people.” (I Samuel 12:22)

**Lesson Truth:** The Israelites wanted a king who would make them independent of God’s rule. This collided with the Lord’s desire to have His people ruled by His words of grace.

### **Lesson**

The children of Israel wanted a king. They wanted to be like the other nations. They wanted their king to be free from God’s rule. The Lord wanted His people to live by the rule of His Word. He wanted them to live by His Word of grace. He wanted this if they had a king or a judge. Our lesson will tell us how the desire of the people collided with the Lord’s desire.

Samuel judged Israel for many years. Now that he was old, he had his two sons help him. It did not work well to have his sons help. Samuel’s sons were very wicked. They were dishonest. They took bribes so the people could pay for the right decision. The wickedness of Samuel’s sons made the elders of Israel unhappy. They came to Samuel and asked him to make a king for them. This did not please Samuel. So he prayed to the Lord to ask Him what to do.

The Lord told Samuel to do as the elders asked. He reminded Samuel that the people were not rejecting him, but were rejecting the Lord. The Lord told Samuel to warn the people what would happen when they had a king. The king would give them heavy taxes. He would take their sons and daughters for his service. The people did not want to listen to Samuel. The Lord told Samuel to make them a king.

Samuel was ready to listen to the Lord. He would anoint a king for Israel. But whom should he anoint? The Lord showed him the man to anoint. The man was Saul the son of Kish. Saul was sent by his father to look for some lost donkeys. When he was looking for the donkeys he came to the place where Samuel was working. He decided to ask Samuel for help. Before he arrived, the Lord told Samuel this was the man he should anoint. Saul was very humble. He said he was from the smallest tribe in Israel. How could he be the king? The Lord told Samuel to give Saul some signs that he was to be the king. Now the Lord would test Saul. Would he rule the people according to the Word of the Lord?

Samuel then called the people together at Mizpah. Here they cast lots to see who should be king. The tribe of Benjamin was chosen. From the tribe of Benjamin, Saul the son of Kish was chosen. Yet Saul remained humble. He could not be found. They asked the Lord through the high priest if Saul would come? They were told he was hiding among the baggage. Then they brought him out. They saw he was a tall kingly man. The people shouted, "Long live the king!" Would Saul rule in the name of the Lord? Would their king bring the people back to the Lord?

God chose an unusual way to get Saul to begin to lead Israel as king. He sent the Ammonites against the men of Jabesh Gilead. The men of Jabesh offered to serve the Ammonites if they would make a treaty. The Ammonites said they would only make a treaty if the men of Jabesh would put out their right eyes. When Saul heard about this challenge, he called the people to fight. God gave him a great victory over the Ammonites. Now the people could see that Saul was their king.

Samuel then called the people together at Gilgal. At Gilgal they made Saul their king. Samuel now told the people he would no longer serve as judge. They should follow their new king. Then he prayed that the Lord would send one more sign. He asked the Lord to send thunder and rain in the dry harvest season. The Lord did send the thunder and the rain. Then the people confessed their sins. They asked Samuel to pray for them. Samuel assured them he would always pray for them. He then urged the people to fear the Lord, and to serve Him in truth with all their heart. For the sake of His own name, the Lord would not forget His people. That is why Samuel could pray this prayer.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. The elders said, "Now make us a \_\_\_\_\_ to judge us like all the nations." (I Sam. 8:5b)
2. The Lord said to Samuel, "Heed the voice of the \_\_\_\_\_ in all that they say to you." (I Sam. 8:7a)
3. "For they have not rejected you, but they have rejected \_\_\_\_\_, that I should not reign over them." (I Sam. 8:7b)
4. "And Samuel said to all the people, 'Do you see him whom the \_\_\_\_\_ has chosen, that there is no one like him among all the people?'" (I Sam. 10:24a)

5. “So all the people shouted and said, ‘Long live the \_\_\_\_\_!’”  
(I Sam. 10:24b)
  
6. “Only fear the \_\_\_\_\_, and serve Him in truth  
with all your heart.” (I Sam. 12:24a)

## Put to Shame

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 10

**Scripture:** I Samuel 13–14

**Memory Verse:** “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31)

**Lesson Truth:** Even though king Saul and the people of Israel sinned against Him, the Lord put them to shame by giving them His blessing.

### Lesson

Samuel had anointed Saul as king of Israel. Samuel said that Saul would be tested. He would be tested to see if he trusted the Lord. Only someone who would obey and trust the Lord could be king. Our lesson is about Saul’s test. He was tested when the Philistines attacked Israel.

Saul had been king for two years. He had a standing army of three thousand soldiers. His son Jonathan commanded one thousand soldiers. Saul commanded the other two thousand. Jonathan attacked the Philistine garrison at Geba. This made the Philistines very angry. They got together an army of thirty thousand chariots. They also had six thousand horsemen. The Philistines had so many soldiers; they could hardly count them. When the men of Israel saw this big army they were afraid. They hid in caves and holes to escape. Now Saul would be tested. Would he trust the Lord for deliverance?

This is what happened. Samuel would come to offer sacrifices to the Lord. Samuel was the priest who could offer sacrifices. He would call on the name of the Lord for Saul. But Samuel did not come right away. Saul waited seven days for Samuel. Then he decided to offer the sacrifices himself. This was a bad thing. Only a priest was supposed to offer sacrifices. Saul followed his own way instead of waiting for the Lord and for Samuel. Saul failed the test. Now Samuel told him his kingdom would be taken away. It would be given to another man the Lord had chosen.

But this story is not really about Saul’s failure. It is about God’s blessing on His people. He blessed them in spite of their sins and the sins of their king. This put His people to shame. Here is the way God’s blessing came about. The large Philistine army was ready to fight Israel. Israel’s army didn’t even have weapons. They had no weapons because the Philistines killed the blacksmiths who made the weapons. In this bad situation Jonathan trusted the Lord. He had faith that the Lord could deliver His people. He said to his armor-bearer, “Let’s go to the Philistine camp. It may be

that the Lord will work for us.” Jonathan said, “The Lord is able to save. He can save by many or by few.”

Do you know what happened? Jonathan and his armor-bearer were able to kill twenty Philistines. Then the Lord put confusion in the Philistine camp. He caused the earth to quake and to tremble. This made the Philistines turn and run. Then the armies of Israel went after them. The Lord showed that He was still with Israel. He blessed Israel in spite of the sins of king, Saul.

Saul was so excited about going after the Philistines that he acted unwisely again. He told the soldiers that no one could eat until evening. He said that anyone who would eat would be cursed. He said this with an oath in the name of the Lord. Saul said he wanted to punish his enemies. He forgot that the Philistines were the Lord’s enemies. He thought they were his enemies. He also forgot that the soldiers needed food for strength. Jonathan did not hear Saul’s oath. So Jonathan ate some honey.

Later Saul inquired of the Lord if he should pursue the Philistines. This time the Lord did not answer. Then Saul knew that there was a sin between the Lord and His people. He cast lots to find out who had sinned. The lot pointed to Jonathan. Then Jonathan told Saul he had eaten honey that day. The Lord did not answer because of a sin against His name. But the sin was really the sin of Saul. Saul’s rash vow was the sin rather than Jonathan breaking that vow. Saul wanted to put Jonathan to death because of the vow. But the people rescued Jonathan. They reminded Saul that the Lord brought a great victory through Jonathan. So Saul was kept from carrying out his oath. Saul was allowed to serve as king for many years. His reign as king should have made God’s people long for the great king, Christ Jesus.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. “Then he waited \_\_\_\_\_ days according to the time set by Samuel.” (I Sam. 13:8a)
2. ““So \_\_\_\_\_ said bring a burnt offering and a peace offering here to me.’ And he offered the burnt offering.” (I Sam. 13:9)
3. “And \_\_\_\_\_ said, ‘What have you done?’” (I Sam. 13:11)

4. “And \_\_\_\_\_ said to Saul, ‘You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the Lord your God, which He commanded you.’” (I Sam. 13:13)
  
5. “Then \_\_\_\_\_ said to the young man who bore his armor, ‘Come let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the Lord will work for us.’” (I Sam. 14:6a)
  
6. “For nothing restrains the \_\_\_\_\_ from saving by many or by few.” (I Sam. 14:6b)

## Divine Rejection

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 11

**Scripture:** I Samuel 15

**Memory Verse:** “For I desire mercy and not sacrifice, and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.” (Hosea 6:6)

**Lesson Truth:** The Lord rejected Saul as king. This was an act of grace so one who feared the Lord could become king.

### Lesson

Saul was the first king of Israel. He was a humble man when he became king. Later he became proud and willful. The Lord could not have a willful person as king. This would lead His people away from Him. In His mercy He rejected Saul as king. Our lesson tells about God’s rejection of Saul.

Samuel the prophet gave Saul orders from the Lord. He told Saul that the Lord wanted him to destroy the Amalekites. The Amalekites showed their hatred for the Lord. They did this when the Israelites came out of Egypt. That is why Saul was told to destroy the Amalekites. He was told to destroy every man, woman, and child of Amalek. He also had to destroy all the animals. The Amalekites had to be punished for their hatred. Saul had to carry out God’s judgment on Amalek.

Saul gathered a big army. He was able to defeat the Amalekites. He even allowed the Kenites to escape from Amalek. The Kenites honored God when Israel left Egypt. Up till this point Saul followed the Lord’s commands. Then he became proud. He decided to do things his own way instead of God’s way. He saved the king of Amalek alive. He would use this king to show off that he was a great general. Saul also allowed his soldiers to keep the best animals. They kept sheep and oxen. Saul did not obey what the Lord commanded.

The Word of God came to Samuel. The Lord said He was sorry He made Saul king. He was sorry because Saul did not obey the Lord’s commands. Samuel felt very bad. He cried out to the Lord all night. But Samuel rose early in the morning and went to Saul. Saul acted like he was happy to see Samuel. He told Samuel, “I have done everything the Lord commanded.” Samuel was upset with Saul. He asked him, how come I hear sheep bleating and oxen lowing. You were commanded to destroy everything. Then Saul made a terrible excuse. He acted like he saved the animals to honor God. He told Samuel he saved the animals so he could offer a sacrifice to God. Now Samuel was really upset. He told Saul to be quiet. He reminded Saul that

when he was humble God made him king. He said God told you to destroy the Amalekites. Why didn't you obey God?

Samuel wanted Saul to think about what he had done. He asked him: "Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord?" Then he reminded Saul, "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams." Samuel then told Saul that the Lord had rejected him from being king. He said, "the Lord has rejected you because you rejected the word of the Lord." Because of His grace, the Lord could not have a disobedient king.

After Samuel talked to Saul he turned to leave. As he turned Saul caught his robe and tore it. Samuel then told Saul to look at the torn robe. He said that just that way the kingdom has been torn from you. God would give the kingdom to someone who would obey. The Lord could not use a king who did not help His people see His grace. Samuel then did one more thing. He killed, Agag, the king of Amalek. Agag died in honor of the Lord's grace.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "Thus says the Lord of hosts, 'I will punish \_\_\_\_\_ for what he did to Israel.'" (I Sam. 15:2a)
2. "Now go and attack \_\_\_\_\_ and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them." (I Sam. 15:3a)
3. "But \_\_\_\_\_ and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep. The oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were unwilling to utterly destroy them." (I Sam 15:9a)
4. "So Samuel said: 'Has the \_\_\_\_\_ as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord?'" (I Sam. 15:22a)
5. "Behold, to \_\_\_\_\_ is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams." (I Sam. 15:22b)
6. "Because you have rejected the word of the \_\_\_\_\_, He also has rejected you from being king." (I Sam. 15:23b)

## Divine Election

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 12

**Scripture:** I Samuel 16

**Memory Verse:** “He does not take delight in the strength of the horse; He takes no pleasure in the legs of a man.” (Psalm 147:10)

**Lesson Truth:** David was chosen as Israel’s new king and led to the throne by the Lord.

### Lesson

The Lord rejected Saul as king of Israel. He chose David to replace Saul as king. Our lesson today is about the way David was chosen and guided to the throne. The Lord directed Samuel to the man He had chosen to be king. He also brought David to Saul’s court to prepare him to be king.

Samuel told Saul that the Lord had rejected him as king. Yet he continued to mourn for Saul. He had expected great things from Saul. Now the Lord asked Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel?” The Lord wanted Samuel to stop thinking about Saul. He told him to take a horn of anointing oil and go to Bethlehem. At Bethlehem the Lord would show him the one he was to anoint as king.

Samuel was afraid to do as the Lord said. He reminded the Lord that Saul would kill him if he heard about anointing another king. So the Lord told Samuel to go to Bethlehem to offer a sacrifice. Saul would not ask any questions about offering a sacrifice. The Lord told Samuel to invite Jesse and his family to the sacrifice. He told Samuel when you do this I will show you what to do. Then Samuel did what the Lord said and went to Bethlehem.

When Samuel came to Bethlehem the elders were afraid. They asked Samuel if he came in peace? Samuel told them he came in peace. He said I came to sacrifice to the Lord. He then told the elders to cleanse themselves. Then Samuel set aside Jesse and his sons. As he did this, he carefully watched Jesse and his sons. He planned to invite them to the sacrificial meal. Before the meal Samuel had each of Jesse’s sons pass before him. When he saw Jesse’s oldest son he was certain this was the one the Lord had chosen. This young man had a striking appearance. But the Lord informed Samuel that he was not the one. He reminded Samuel, “The Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart”

(I Samuel 16:7). God would choose a man whose heart would seek the Lord. God wanted a man of faith to be the king of Israel.

Seven sons of Jesse were presented to Samuel. Each time the Lord informed him that this was not the one chosen to be king. Finally, Samuel had to ask Jesse if he had any more sons. Jesse told him there was one more son who was tending the sheep. Samuel asked that this son be brought in. He was David the youngest son of Jesse. When David came, Samuel saw a ruddy lad with bright eyes. The Lord told Samuel to arise and anoint him to be king. This was the man whom the Lord had chosen. David was anointed in the presence of his brothers. The Lord chose David to lead His people back to God. The reign of David would help the people prepare for the coming of the true king, the Lord Jesus Christ.

David was a young shepherd boy when he was anointed to be king. How would the Lord prepare him to lead His people? A good preparation would be to spend time in the king's court. This happened when Saul was troubled with evil spirits. The Lord sent these spirits after Saul rejected the word of the Lord. His servants thought it would quiet Saul's spirit if someone would play the harp for him. Saul ordered that such a person be found. God directed them to David through one of Saul's servants. At Saul's command, David was brought to the king's court. Here he learned the ways of the court. He became a blessing to Saul and to all Israel. David was elected to be king by the Lord.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "Now the Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you mourn for \_\_\_\_\_?'" (I Sam 16:1)
2. "Then invite \_\_\_\_\_ to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do." (I Sam. 16:3)
3. "So it was, when they came that he looked at \_\_\_\_\_ and said, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is before Him.'" (I Sam. 16:6)
4. "But the Lord said to \_\_\_\_\_, 'Do not look at his appearance or his physical stature.'" (I Sam. 16:7a)

5. “For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance but the \_\_\_\_\_ looks at the heart.” (I Sam. 16:7b)
  
6. “And the Spirit of the Lord came upon \_\_\_\_\_ from that day forward.” (I Sam. 16:13b)

## The Deliverer Revealed to the People

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 13

**Scripture:** I Samuel 17:1–18:13

**Memory Verse:** “Then all this assembly shall know that the Lord does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands.” (I Samuel 17:47)

**Lesson Truth:** David was shown to be the deliverer of Israel when he defeated Goliath.

### Lesson

Saul no longer had the Spirit of God. He was not able to defeat the Philistines. Who would deliver Israel from her enemies? Our lesson tells us about the deliverer that God sent. He was David, the son of Jesse, whom Samuel anointed as king.

Saul was troubled with evil spirits. He was no longer a dependable leader. Yet the Philistines continued to trouble Israel. The Philistine army was camped on a hillside. The army of Israel was camped on the hillside opposite the Philistines. The Philistines had a soldier who was a champion fighter. He was a giant whose name was Goliath. Each day Goliath would come out and mock the army of Israel. He would yell for them to send a man to fight with him. He promised if your man kills me, then we will be your servants. But he said, “If I kill him then Israel must serve the Philistines.” Not a soldier in Israel dared to fight Goliath. Day after day Goliath sneered at the army of the living God. All that Saul was able to do was to promise his daughter to the soldier who killed Goliath.

Didn't Israel have anyone who believed that God would fight for them? Because of Saul's evil spirits faith was weak in Israel. Then David came to visit the army. He was sent by his father to visit his older brothers and to bring gifts to Saul. Just as David came into the camp Goliath yelled his challenge. When David heard this, he was angry. He was angry because Goliath sneered at the army of the living God. David asked if he did this every day. He asked if there wasn't anyone who would fight the giant. He asked why this unbelieving Philistine was allowed to mock the name of God.

Saul heard that David believed Goliath could be defeated. He sent for David. And David told Saul he would fight the giant. Saul then tried to put his armor on David. But this was too clumsy for him. David then took his shepherd staff and his sling and went out to meet Goliath. This was an insult to Goliath to have a youth with a

sling, come out to fight him. He sneered that he would kill David and feed his flesh to the birds and wild animals. Then David answered with words of faith. He said, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord God of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied." David told Goliath that today the Lord would deliver him in to his hand. He said he would feed the bodies of the Philistines to the birds. But greatest of all, the whole world would know that there is a God in Israel.

David then selected a stone for his sling. He slung this stone and struck Goliath in his temple. The giant fell face down to the earth. David then took the giant's sword and cut off his head. When the Philistines saw their champion dead, they fled. They were afraid of the power of Israel's God. David was victorious because of the Power of Christ. It was not his skill with a sling that gave him the victory. This was the way God made it known that David was the deliverer of Israel.

When Jonathan heard of David's victory he made a covenant with him. Jonathan loved David as he loved his own soul. He believed that David was the deliverer of Israel. The women who went out to meet the soldiers sang praises to Saul and David. But this was not a song of faith. They sang to Saul and David and not to the Lord. A song of faith would have praised the Lord for His victory. Saul began to hate David. The Lord had taken his Spirit from Saul. So Saul hated this Spirit of the Lord in David. Two times he tried to kill David with His spear. Every time he saw the Spirit of the Lord in David he felt guilty. The Lord sent a deliverer for his people. This deliverer was David. He pointed to the deliverer of all God's people, the Lord Jesus Christ.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "The \_\_\_\_\_ stood on a mountain on one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side, with a valley between them." (I Sam. 17:3)
2. "And a champion went out from the camp of the Philistines named, \_\_\_\_\_." (I Sam. 17:4a)
3. "And the \_\_\_\_\_ said, 'I defy the armies of Israel this day.'" (I Sam. 17:10a)

4. “And when the Philistine looked about and saw \_\_\_\_\_ he  
disdained him; for he was only a youth, ruddy and good looking.” (I Sam. 17:42)
  
5. “So the Philistine said to David, ‘Am I a \_\_\_\_\_ that you have  
come to me with sticks?’” (I Sam. 17:43a)
  
6. “This day the \_\_\_\_\_ will deliver you into my hand, and I will  
strike you and take your head from you.” (I Sam. 17:46a)