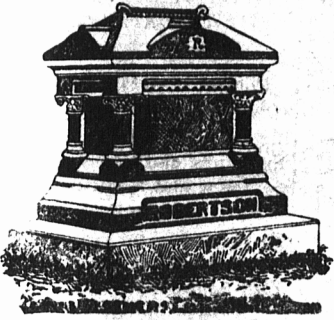


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1st Aug.	8th Aug.
15th "	22nd "
29th "	5th Sept.
12th Sept.	19th "
26th "	3rd Oct.
12th Oct.	17th "
24th "	31st "
7th Nov.	14th Nov.

\*Commencing 12th September leave Montreal at 1 p. m. Returning will leave Pictou, N. S. for Charlottetown, on the Mondays at noon on arrival of trains from Halifax and St. John.  
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**THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.**

LESSON VI, THIRD QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, AUG. 7.

Text of the Lesson, 1 Kings xvii, 1-16—Memory Verses, 18, 14—Golden Text, 1 Pet. v, 7—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

[Copyright, 1904, by American Press Association.]  
We are now introduced to and are to spend six weeks with Elijah, the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead. This first record of him contains all that we know of his birth-place and parentage. Like Melchizedek, he stands before us on the pages of Scripture without any record of father or mother or ancestry, and he appears as suddenly. He is spoken of by some as one of the grandest and most romantic characters that Israel ever produced. His name signifies "My God is Jehovah," and before Jehovah he stood, and unto Him he lived. The first recorded sentence from his lips, "The Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand" (verse 1), gives us his constant attitude. The rule of his life was to please God, not fearing the frown nor seeking the favor of mortal man. His opening words are repeated in xvii, 15, and make us think of Gabriel's words in Luke 1, 19, "I am Gabriel that stand in the presence of God." They also carry us back to the Lord's word to Abram in Gen. xv, 1, "Walk before Me and be thou perfect" (margins—upright, sincere). This is the only way for those who would be the Lord's messengers.

Concerning his message to Ahab, "There shall not be dew nor rain these years but according to My word," we must consider Jas. v, 17, where it is written that he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, and also Deut. xi, 17, where we have the authority for such a prayer, the Lord having threatened to shut up the heavens and withhold rain if they turned from Him to worship idols. That the heavens were thus shut up in the days of Elijah is confirmed by our Lord in Luke iv, 25. Believing prayer must be based upon some plain assurance in the word of God or some clear revelation from God concerning His will. George Muller has called the former the grace of faith and the latter the gift of faith. In one way or the other God will guide us.

Verses 2 to 6 give us the story of the brook Cherith and the ravens, and all was according to the word of the Lord, which both Elijah and the ravens obeyed. The first time this title or expression, "The word of the Lord," is used is in Gen. xv, 1. It may mean a message from God or it may mean the Son of God, who is called "The Word" (John 1, 1; Rev. xix, 13). Either way it is God controlling, and our part is "willing and obedient" (Isa. 1, 19). The prophet is now told to hide himself; he has delivered his message and that is all that is required of him at present.

May the life of every child of God be summed up in this: "Striving according to His working, which worketh in Me mightily" (Col. 1, 29), for unless it is God working in us it cannot stand. But when we thus seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness we may be sure that all temporal things shall be added, even though ravens feed us or poor widows minister to us. In these days of unbelief and scoffing, if any should hear it said that Arabs, not birds, fed Elijah, just ask what kind of an Arab flew out of Noah's ark, for the word "raven" in our lesson is the same in the Hebrew as the word "raven" in Gen. viii, 7. By whatever instrumentality the Lord may minister to us, while truly grateful to Him and to His ministering servants, we must be stayed upon Himself alone, lest some Cherith dry up and we thereby grow discouraged. Hab. iii, 17, 18, is a fine word to appropriate, for whoever or whatever may fail us we can always truly say, "Thou, O Lord, remainest forever" (Lam. v, 19; Heb. 1, 11).

It was not for Elijah to think out some new place to go to, for the Lord who sent him to Cherith and hid and sustained him there had his eye upon him (1 Chron. xvi, 9), and saw all the circumstances, and doubtless Elijah talked with Him about it. Well, at the right time, not too soon nor too late, the same word of the Lord who sent him to Cherith commands him to go to a widow woman at Zarephath, or according to Luke iv, 26, Sarepta, and there is our Lord's confirmation of this part of the story also. Zarephath signifies a place of refining, and, while at Cherith he was cut off from all human help, he is now to be refined still more by most unlikely human ministrations. Surely he journeys, for the Lord can hide us while journeying as well as while abiding, and when he arrives at the gate of the city the widow is there gathering a few sticks to make a cake, for herself and her son, of the last handful of meal in the house, and after that they expect to die. What a boarding house! What a welcome for a weary traveler! And yet it is the Lord's way.

Listen to Elijah: "Fear not; go and do as thou hast said, but make me a little cake first" (verse 13). Had this been all, the woman might have thought him some crazy tramp. But listen yet: "After that make for thee and for thy son, for thus saith the Lord God of Israel, the barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail until" . . . And so it came to pass according to the word of the Lord, and the meal and oil were multiplied for a full year (verses 10-16 and margin of 16). This poor widow gave all to the Lord; the widow who had two mites gave all; the lad with the five loaves gave all. When we are reservedly give all, we shall see the Lord's increase. "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth" (Prov. xi, 24). The rest of the verse tells why many are poor who might be rich.

**CALENDAR FOR JULY 1904.**

Moon's Phases  
Last Quarter 5 d, 6 h, 51 m. p. m.  
New Moon 13 d, 1 h, 27 m. a. m.  
First Quarter 19 d, 4 h, 49 m. p. m.  
Full Moon 27 d, 5 h, 42 m. a. m.

Day of Week	Sun Rise	Sun Set	Moon Rise	Moon Set	High Water
1 Fr	4:33	8:06	9:48	12:29	
2 Sa	4:33	8:06	10:20	1:57	1:12
3 Su	4:34	8:06	10:51	2:33	1:58
4 M	4:34	8:06	11:23	3:10	2:45
5 Tu	4:35	8:06	11:57	3:48	3:44
6 W	4:36	8:03	a. m.	4:30	4:48
7 Th	4:37	8:03	0:30	5:18	6:07
8 Fr	4:37	8:05	1:17	6:08	7:20
9 Sa	4:38	8:04	1:48	6:59	8:23
10 Su	4:39	8:04	2:35	7:48	9:21
11 M	4:40	8:03	3:26	8:36	10:12
12 Tu	4:41	8:02	4:24	9:20	10:56
13 W	4:41	8:01	sets.	10:02	11:39
14 Th	4:42	8:01	8:21	10:49	
15 Fr	4:43	8:00	9:6	11:32	
16 Sa	4:44	8:00	9:47	12:09	
17 Su	4:45	7:59	10:23	1:51	1:37
18 M	4:46	7:58	11:9	2:38	2:43
19 Tu	4:47	7:57	11:48	3:27	3:45
20 W	4:48	7:56	a. m.	4:19	4:24
21 Th	4:49	7:56	0:26	5:12	6:00
22 Fr	4:50	7:55	1:8	6:06	7:24
23 Sa	4:51	7:54	1:54	7:01	8:36
24 Su	4:52	7:53	2:41	7:55	9:37
25 M	4:53	7:52	3:31	8:45	10:23
26 Tu	4:54	7:51	4:21	9:32	11:04
27 W	4:55	7:51	rises	10:17	11:41
28 Th	4:56	7:50	7:43	10:59	11:4
29 Fr	4:58	7:48	8:21	0:15	11:4
30 Sa	4:59	7:46	8:53	0:46	12:3
31 Su	5:00	7:45	9:24	1:18	1:0

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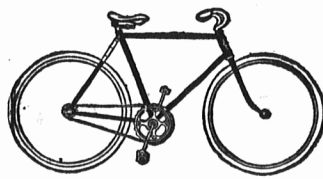
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