

INTERNATIONAL LESSON NO. V
NOVEMBER 1, 1908.

David and Abimelech—9 Sam. 15: 1-12.

Commentary.—I. Abimelech stealing the hearts of the people (vs. 1-5). After this—After Abimelech's return from Geshur and his restoration and reception by David (chap. xiv. 21-33).

2. Rose up early—Public business in the courts in many places transacted early, before the heat of the day. Possibly this early rising was intended to forestall the king who was certain to sit in the gate during part of the day. It would thus appear that upon his heart, and would make a noble king, just suited to their present needs.

3-6. Good and right—Thus to win favor he gave a decision before an investigation was made. No man admitted—Abimelech king himself, accusing the king himself of injustice; but he excites in the minds of the people distrust of the king's wholehearted practice in saying that there was no regular judicial process for a just cause. On that 1—Thus he pressed extraordinary generosity and interest in public affairs, yet appearing to have no selfish desire in the matter. Obsequious—The customary greeting, as bowing to the ground. He blessed him—Embraced him as a brother, apparently forgetting of his position and honor. Stoned—He pretended friendship with them and anxiety for their welfare, but the people from his father to himself.

7-9. After forty years—Father after four years. It is generally admitted that forty years is a mistake in the text. The time must be the years after Abimelech's return to Jerusalem and his beginning to practise the base and cunning policy. Pay my vow—David was glad to see this indication of religious feeling on Abimelech's part. The deceitful son pretended to have been a strict follower of Jehovah, even while he was in a heathen country—Spoke to be used as a tool against David. Abimelech, however, had no hesitancy in supporting the son against the father, seeing that David had brought disgrace upon his family by the affair with Bath-sheba, and more over his own banishment from court was fresh in his mind. When all was quiet the cry taken up from month to month by the chosen and scattered spies gave the appearance of a general and satisfactory acceptance of the new king.

The news that all Israel had gone after Abimelech fell with crushing effect upon David, entirely taking away his spirit for the time. He was not long, however, in deciding upon a course of action. Jerusalem, his loved city, must not be subjected to a siege, so he immediately arranged to flee. His servants and household signifying their readiness to obey his commands, he set forth over the brook Kidron for the fords of the Jordan and the eastern tribes. David's character shines forth in this time of dire calamity. He bows to the will of God in it all. When the loyal priests bring the ark to accompany him, he commands that it be taken back to its place, unwilling that any harm should befall it. He said, I shall find favor in the eyes of the Lord. He will bring me again. If not, let Him do as seemeth good to Him. Even the bitter cursing of Shimai is borne as permitted by God.

Much may be learned from the lesson before us. Beauty of person is a calamity to its possessor unless coupled with grace of character and mind. Pride and self-seeking bring their whole reward of ignominy (Esth. vii. 10). It is better to accept defeat at the hands of God than to plan our own successes. Our devotion to Christ should be as sincere and unalterable as that of Ittai's band to King David (Acts xx. 24). Wesley F. Matthews.

The Canada Furniture Company's sawmill at Warton was burned, with a loss of \$50,000. Fredrick Johnston, of Toronto, has been summoned to answer to a charge of carrying on a lottery in that city.

PRACTICAL SURVEY.
The rebellion of Abimelech was made not only possible but probable by certain conditions in the king's own household and personal conduct.

Polygamous relations had introduced discord over the heir apparent, and had lowered the moral tone of the whole court.

An instance of this is seen in the fact that Jonathan could be the investigator of Abimelech's crime (chap. xiii. 5) and the accessory of Abimelech's deed in regard to that crime (chap. xiii. 8) and still retain an honorable place in the court. Disrespect had no doubt arisen in the minds of some of David's sin with Bath-sheba, and moreover, the prophet had warned him that trouble and the sword should rise against him from his own house, and in the eyes of all the people should he be disgraced (chap. xii. 12). Unrestrained love for his children was a characteristic of the king; a love which led him to be foolishly indulgent of their desires and pride. Knowledge of their unbecoming conduct caused him to be very wrathful, but records of reproof or punishment are wanting. From these and other facts it is little wonder that trouble beset the path of so good a man and king as David.

Abimelech's character is clearly portrayed in the scriptural narrative. In personal beauty he stood without a peer among the king's sons and the young men of the land (chap. xiv. 25). On the other hand, his mental and moral make-up is weak and despicable. He exhibits almost no estimable traits of character. The son of an eminently pious father, his only recorded act of religious zeal is his false and hypocritical request to be allowed to wear the crown while he abode at Geshur (v. 7). It was enough that a fratricide should be granted life, unmolested in his own home, but here is the total lack of humble thankfulness which cannot be satisfied until granted the privilege of full honor at the court.

The plot of the rebellion was well laid. A time was chosen when many might be feeling that David was sorely to be blamed for the plague which had visited them in consequence of the enrolment of the people. The choice of Hebron would do much to gain Judah as a tribe. The religious ceremonies ostensibly assumed served to call out a company of two hundred chief men from Jerusalem who were found in their simplicity and "knew not anything." While Joab might support Abimelech's claim as against Solomon's, he was too loyal to be used as a tool against David. Abimelech, however, had no hesitancy in supporting the son against the father, seeing that David had brought disgrace upon his family by the affair with Bath-sheba, and more over his own banishment from court was fresh in his mind. When all was quiet the cry taken up from month to month by the chosen and scattered spies gave the appearance of a general and satisfactory acceptance of the new king.

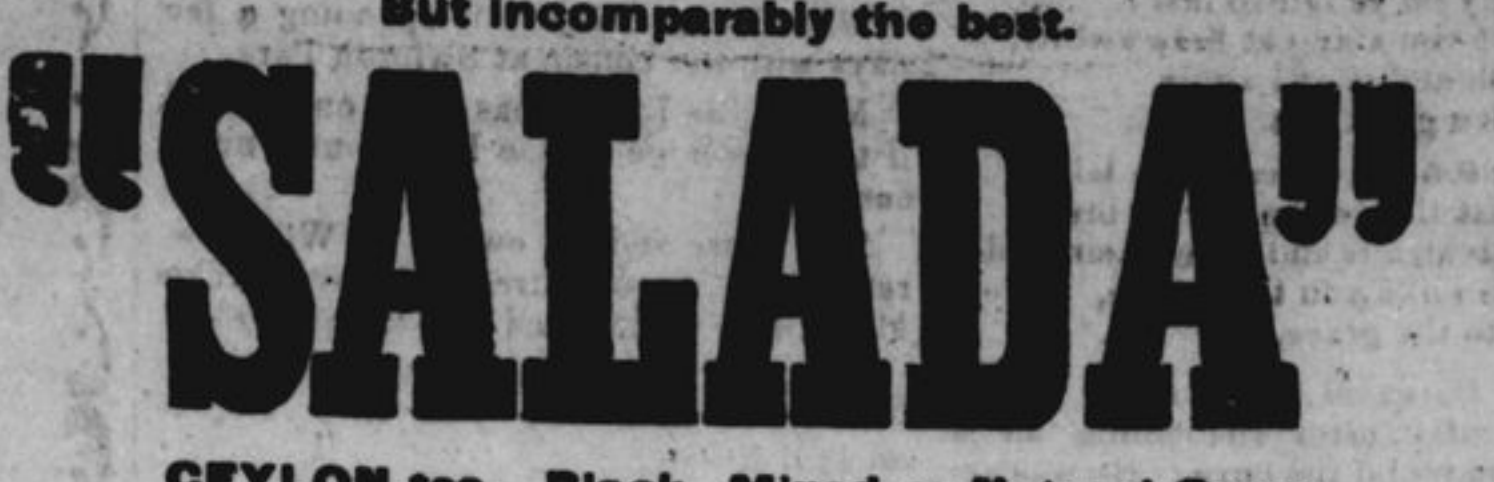
The news that all Israel had gone after Abimelech fell with crushing effect upon David, entirely taking away his spirit for the time. He was not long, however, in deciding upon a course of action. Jerusalem, his loved city, must not be subjected to a siege, so he immediately arranged to flee. His servants and household signifying their readiness to obey his commands, he set forth over the brook Kidron for the fords of the Jordan and the eastern tribes. David's character shines forth in this time of dire calamity. He bows to the will of God in it all. When the loyal priests bring the ark to accompany him, he commands that it be taken back to its place, unwilling that any harm should befall it. He said, I shall find favor in the eyes of the Lord. He will bring me again. If not, let Him do as seemeth good to Him. Even the bitter cursing of Shimai is borne as permitted by God.

Much may be learned from the lesson before us. Beauty of person is a calamity to its possessor unless coupled with grace of character and mind. Pride and self-seeking bring their whole reward of ignominy (Esth. vii. 10). It is better to accept defeat at the hands of God than to plan our own successes. Our devotion to Christ should be as sincere and unalterable as that of Ittai's band to King David (Acts xx. 24). Wesley F. Matthews.

The Canada Furniture Company's sawmill at Warton was burned, with a loss of \$50,000. Fredrick Johnston, of Toronto, has been summoned to answer to a charge of carrying on a lottery in that city.

PRACTICAL SURVEY.
The rebellion of Abimelech was made not only possible but probable by certain conditions in the king's own household and personal conduct.

"Not Simply Passably Good,"
But incomparably the best.



Sold only in sealed lead packets. 25c, 30c, 40c, 50c, 60c per lb. By all grocers

How She Knew It.
He—And so you think that if women had the ballot they would have minds of their own and be able to give logical reasons for their beliefs?
She—(decisively)—I know they would. He—But how do you know it?
She—Why, because.

MENTI BACKED BY ENTERPRISE
One of the surest signs of approaching winter has come to hand in the shape of "Dodd's Kidney Pills," published by the Dodd's Medicine Co., of Toronto. For thirteen years this useful little book has been a familiar appearance, and there are few more familiar or welcome visitors to the homes of Canada. Its data and statistics are carefully prepared by the best known authorities and have been found uniformly correct.

In addition to this Dodd's Almanac contains much that is of interest to the Canadian reader. It gives in condensed form the record for the year of the well-known Dodd's Remedies that, first prepared in Canada, have come to be a household word in the homes of the civilized world.

It shows the growth of an industry founded on merit and cultivated by enterprise. It shows the appreciation of the public for a remedy that they have tried themselves and not found wanting. It shows the health hundreds of sufferers have found in Dodd's Kidney Pills when in their misery they thought death was their only relief.

And Dodd's Almanac has become one of Canada's national advertisements. Published in many countries and languages it has made Canada a familiar word in those lands where the great Dominion has heretofore stood aloof. It is a family friend in every household. Suffice it to say it has done honor to the Dodd's Medicine Co. and the proud name of Canada.

SLAVES CHEAP
—IN CHINA

There are at an estimate 10,000,000 human beings who are in servitude in the Celestial Kingdom. China has 80,000,000 families, and this makes one slave to every eight families. The average is greater in south China, where nearly every one owns slaves. There is scarcely a Chinese family of means in Nanking, Canton, Macao or Amoy but who possess slaves.

Slave boys are less common, but the girls are found in every street and in almost every house. Girls fetch from \$10 to \$100 and upward in south China. They are sold at any age from 3 to 15, and most commonly at 7 or 8. The prettiest girls are the most desirable, as in case of marriage or sale they will bring more to the family which buys them. Most of the slave girls are bought to work about the house. It is cheaper to buy a servant than to hire one, for if you take a girl of 8 you can have her services until she is 15, getting eight years of work for nothing but her board and clothes, and then sell her for perhaps ten times your original price.

Theoretically there are no slaves in Hong Kong, as it is British territory, but in reality the city is full of them. They are the maid

The Markets.

Toronto Farmers' Markets
The street receipts of grain to-day were small, with changes in price unimportant. Wheat steady, with sales of 100 bushels of white at 82c, 100 bushels of red winter at 82c, and 200 bushels of goose at 73 to 74c. Barley is unchanged, with sales of 400 bushels at 46 to 50c. Oats firmer; 600 bushels selling at 34 to 35c. Buckwheat sold at 50c a bushel for one load.

Dairy produce in good supply, with prices of butter and eggs were firm. Fresh eggs sold at 30c a dozen. Hay is steady, on receipts of 30 loads, which sold at \$10 to \$12 a ton for timothy, and \$8 to \$9 for clover. Straw sold at \$11 to \$11.50 a ton.

Dressed hogs are unchanged, with sales at \$7.25 to \$7.75. 74c white, bush 82c; do, goose, 73c to 74c; red, bush, 82c; do, spring, 82c to 82 1/2c; peas, bush, 76 to 80c; oats, bush, 34 to 35c; barley, bush, 46 to 50c; rye, bush, 55 to 56c; hay, timothy, per ton, \$10 to \$12; do, clover, \$8 to \$9; straw, per ton, \$11 to \$11.50; seeds, Alsike, bush, \$4.75 to \$6; do, red clover, \$5.50 to \$6; do, timothy, \$1 to \$1.50; apples, per bush, 75c to \$1.25; hogs, \$8 to \$9; beef, choice, per dozen, 25 to 30c; butter, daily 19c to 23c; do, creamery, 22 to 25c; chickens, per lb., 10c to 11c; ducks, per lb., 10 to 11c; geese, per lb., 16c; potatoes, per bag, 65 to 70c; cabbage, per dozen, 40 to 50c; cauliflower, per dozen, 75c to \$1; celery, per dozen, 35 to 40c; beef, fore-quarters, \$4.50 to \$5; beef, hind-quarters, \$7.50 to \$8.50; beef, choice, carcass, \$6 to \$6.25; beef, medium, carcass, \$6.50 to \$7; lamb, yearling, \$5.50 to \$6.50; mutton, per cwt., \$4.50 to \$5.50; veal, per cwt., \$7 to \$9.

The Cheese Markets.
Belleville, Oct. 21.—To-day 2,103 boxes of cheese were registered, 2,005 white, balance colored. Watkin got 180, Sprague 75, at 10 1/2c; 10 1/2c was bid for balance.

Cornwall, Ont., Oct. 21.—To-day 1,047 white, 532 colored, and 80 U. S. cheese were boarded here; all sold but 185 boxes; white at 10 1/2 to 10 13/16c; colored at 10 1/2 to 10 13/16c.

London, Ont., Oct. 21.—To-day 10 1/2c was the ruling price here; 200 sold at 11 1/16c; trade quiet.

Toronto Fruit Markets.
Messrs. Woodall & Co. cabled Eben James, from Liverpool: 22,000 lbs. sold; market active; prices very firm.

Leading Wheat Markets.
Following are the closing quotations at important wheat centres to-day:

New York Cash, Dec. 87 1/4
Chicago 87 1/2
Toledo 86 5/8
Duluth, No. 1 77 7/8

"Burning Bush" Discovered.

A plant has lately been placed in the celebrated Kew gardens. It came from Arabia, and, according to a correspondent of the "Boston Herald," is said by scientists to be the identical species of "burning bush" which Moses saw near Mount Horeb.

The plant has the remarkable property of exhaling inflammable gas from its flowers which, on being approached by a light, takes fire and burns brightly for a few moments, the plant in the meantime remaining uninjured, owing to its sap.

While this singular plant seems to confirm the truth of Moses' story, it throws no light on the mysterious voices heard by Moses at that time. Perhaps, however, psychology and the "higher criticism" will account for the voice as being Moses' own feeling of surprise and awe at the remarkable phenomenon which led him reverently to take off his shoes in the presence of the wonder and to ascribe to God what seemed to him a miracle.

Whatever be the explanation of the voice, the plant is an actuality, and should be one of the interesting features of the St. Louis Exposition.

The Human Body.
The study of anatomy, recently introduced in the public schools, may be a good thing in a number of ways, but it was evidently thrown away on a certain boy whose essay on the human body was read at an examination not long ago, says the Philadelphia Inquirer. This is what he has discovered after a careful perusal of the textbooks:

"The human body consists of the head, thorax, abdomen and legs. The head contains the brain, in case there are any. The thorax contains the heart and lungs, also the liver and lights. The abdomen contains the bowels, of which there are five—a, e, l, o and u, and sometimes w and y. The legs extend from the abdomen to the floor, and have hinges at the top and middle, and enable a fellow to sit when standing, or to stand when sitting."

PUT HIS FOOT IN IT.
Count Doolittle—Be mine and we will live on the fat of the land.
She—I take that as a personal jar when you know that pe's in the pig business.

Wisdom of Chief Joseph.
The press agent of the Indian Congress at Madison Square Garden vouches for the following philosophical remarks by Chief Joseph, "as translated by Red Thunder, "Small mothers have brought forth big chiefs.
Bad-Deeds loses much sleep.
A secret calls at a hundred wig-wags.
Every man knows how to make love for himself.
Stingy-Man tries to warn himself with smoke.
A hungry stomach does not quarrel with the cook.
Little-Caution sets big death traps.
You can't tell a gun's kill by its kick.
Bad-News files on the lightning's wings.
In the dark is a good place to look at yourself.
Do not bait with sturgeon to catch perch.
The hornet's sting feels longer than the heron's hooks.
You do not have to eat grubs because they taste sweet to the bear.
I am always afraid that clumsy kindness will step on my feet.
The coward envies the rabbit's legs.
A Frenchman seems polite enough to shake hands with a crab.

The King a Busy Man.
The King takes a very keen interest in every department of public business, and insists on knowing everything that is going on, and likes to be himself consulted about every point of all descriptions. The only Sovereigns since the Tudor period who have been so personally and usefully busy as His Majesty in Government were George III. and William II.



THE WAY IT GOES.

He—I sold that article for ten dollars that I wrote on the evils of betting.
She—What will you do with the money?
He—I bet it on our ball team.



PUT HIS FOOT IN IT.

Count Doolittle—Be mine and we will live on the fat of the land.
She—I take that as a personal jar when you know that pe's in the pig business.

We Paid \$100,000,
For Liquezone—Yet We Give You a 50c. Bottle Free.

This company, after testing Liquezone for two years in the most difficult germ diseases, paid \$100,000 for the American rights. That is by far the highest price ever paid for similar rights on any scientific discovery. We publish this fact to show you the value of Liquezone. The most worthless product may have great claims made about it; but men don't pay a price like that save for a discovery of remarkable worth to humanity.

Liquezone alone kills germs in the body without killing the tissues, too. It is so certain that we publish on every bottle an offer of \$1,000 for a diseased germ that it cannot kill. Liquezone destroys at once and forever the cause of any germ disease.

And there is no other way to do it. Any drug that kills germs is a poison to you, and it cannot be taken internally. Liquezone alone can attack a trouble that is caused by inside germs; and it cures diseases which medicine never cures.

Liquezone is simply liquid oxygen—no drugs, no alcohol of any kind. It is the discovery of Paul, the great German chemist, who spent 30 years on it. His object was to get such an excess of oxygen in staple

form into the blood that no germ could live in any membrane or tissue. Liquezone does that. Oxygen is Nature's greatest tonic—the very source of vitality. Its effects are exhilarating—purifying, vitalizing. Nothing else in the world is so good for you. Bad germs are vegetables; and this excess of oxygen—the very life of an animal—is deadly to vegetable matter.

We spend 14 days in making each bottle of Liquezone; but the result is liquid oxygen—a product which will cure diseases which no medicine will cure without it. It is now employed in every great hospital, and endorsed by every medical authority, the world over.

Germ Diseases.
These are the known germ diseases. All that medicine can do for these troubles is to help Nature overcome the germs, and such results are indirect and uncertain. Liquezone kills the germs, wherever they are, and the results are inevitable. By destroying the cause of the trouble, it invariably ends the disease, and forever.

Askin—Amnesia
Brain—Epilepsy
Eyes—Cataract
Kidney—Bright's Disease
Lungs—Tuberculosis
Nerve—Neuritis
Stomach—Dyspepsia
Throat—Tonsillitis
Tuberculosis
Tumors—Cancer
Women's Diseases
All diseases that begin with fever—all inflammations—all eruptions—all contagious diseases—all the results of impure or poisoned blood.
In nervous debility Liquezone acts as a vitalizer, accomplishing what no drugs can do.

50c. Bottle Free.
If you need Liquezone, and have never tried it, please send this coupon. We will then mail you an order on your local druggist for a full-size bottle. We will pay your druggist ourselves for it. This is our free gift, made to convince you; to show you what Liquezone is, and what it can do. In justice to yourself, please accept it today, for it places you under no obligation whatever.
Liquezone costs 50c. and \$1.

CUT OUT THIS COUPON
For this offer may not appear again. Fill out the blanks and mail it to the Liquid Ozone Co., 221-229 Kinross St., Chicago.
My disease is.....
I have never tried Liquezone or Powley's Liquid Ozone, but if you will supply me a 50c. bottle free I will take it.
Name.....
Address.....
City.....
State.....
Liquezone—our trademark name—now appears on every bottle of genuine Liquid Ozone.