

### SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson for April 5

Golden Text.—David went on, and grew great, and the Lord God of hosts was with him.—2 Sam. 5:10

The Lesson as a Whole

Many years elapsed between the anointing of David and his crowning as king—and even then, after Saul was dead, it was only as king of Judah that David reigned for the first seven years, while the rest of the tribes followed Ish-bosheth, one of the surviving sons of Saul. But through the defection of Abner, captain-general of the armies of Israel, all the tribes came to Hebron to make David king of all Israel. This enabled him to put into effect a strong program of consolidation, and to put the nation on a footing where the surrounding nations were no longer sources of fear and consternation.

There was something in the personality of the new king that won

men's hearts and drew people to him. He had learned valuable lessons in the years of his suffering and rejection that stood him in good stead in the time of recognition as the anointed of the Lord, when prosperity crowned his efforts and success rewarded his faithfulness.

Throughout all his life, David recognized God as the real King of Israel and considered himself as a mere deputy or representative of the throne of Heaven, whose duty it was to rule the people according to the Law of the Lord, administering justice, showing mercy, and maintaining the honor of God's house. His example of subjection to the Lord and conscientious adherence to the divinely given program resulted in great and lasting blessing to Israel and united the twelve tribes for the first time into a truly great nation, respected by their former foes and rapidly developing a civilization far beyond anything known in the days of the judges and of King Saul.

Verse by Verse

2 Sam. 5:6.—"The king and his men went to Jerusalem unto the Jebusites." Up to this time, only a part of what was afterward included in the city of Jerusalem was actually possessed by Israel. Mount Zion was a stronghold of the Jebusites, who taunted the men of Judah, declaring that even their lame and blind people could defend the citadel against David's men. He, however, determined to oust these ancient enemies from their fortress and take possession of it in the name of the God of Israel.

Verse 7.—"Nevertheless David took the strong hold of Zion." When he succeeded in his avowed object, he made Zion his own capital. From this time on it comes into special prominence as the mount or sovereign grace, triumphing over all human opposition.

Verse 8.—"Because of the taunt of the Jebusites, David offered a special reward to 'whosoever getteth up to the gutter,' that is, to the aqueduct through which they might enter the city, and so should overcome 'the blind and the lame,' epithets he used to describe the whole Jebusite force. In after years the remnant of the Jebusites, still so stigmatized, were shut out from the house of God as unfit to mingle with the chosen race of Israel. It was of God that these idolaters should be driven out of that Mount Zion which He had chosen for the place of His throne (Psa. 2:6, 132:13).

Verse 9.—"So David dwelt in the fort, and called it the city of David." This became the place of the royal residence. From there David built an enlarged city, taking in the various hills round about from Millo and inward. Millo, or properly, the Millo, may have been another Jebusite tower, or hilly fortification, but the exact meaning and location is uncertain.

Verse 10.—"David ... grew great and the Lord God of hosts was with him." As David walked in obedience to God, he prospered and became the outstanding monarch of his time.

Verse 17.—"The Philistines came up to seek David." When these hereditary foes of Israel heard that David had become king, they at once prepared to seek to overthrow him in order to bring Israel into subjection to themselves.

Verse 18.—"The Philistines ... spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim." This was the region

southwest of Jerusalem, where the aboriginal inhabitants of the land, who were of great stature, had once dwelt.

Verse 19.—"David enquired of the Lord." The young king sought to obtain the mind of God as to what to do in this emergency. The Lord commanded him to "go up" against the Philistines, promising that the enemy would be defeated.

Verse 20.—"David smote them ... and said, 'The Lord hath broken forth upon mine enemies before me.'" David took no credit to himself, but gave the Lord all the glory for the great victory that ensued.

Verse 21.—"They left their images, and David and his men burned them." These evidences of idolatry were destroyed, thus demonstrating the powerlessness of the false gods of the heathen, and also, doubtless, that they might not become a snare to any in Israel.

Verse 22.—"The Philistines came up yet again." These implacable enemies of God and His people determined to make another effort to retrieve their fortunes.

Verse 23.—"Fetch a compass." On this occasion the Lord commanded David not to meet the foe in open conflict, but to use strategy, going around their encampment and taking them by surprise.

Verse 24.—"When thou hearest a sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees." At a signal, divinely given, David was to fall upon the Philistines, assured that he should overcome them.

Verse 25.—"David did so, as the Lord had commanded him." Acting in obedience to the word of the Lord, another great victory was won, as a result of which the Philistines were completely defeated and David's authority extended throughout all Palestine.

The Heart of the Lesson

When God is given His rightful place in one's life, He will work out His own plans in blessing. Nothing can turn Him from His purpose. In the life of David we see the Lord's acting in sovereign grace, taking up an unknown shepherd lad, entering into covenant with him, and after preserving him through many difficulties, bringing him into favor with all Israel and placing him upon the throne of the kingdom. Through him the formerly jealous tribes were united into a strong and a great nation, walking in the fear of God.



Happy newlyweds are Ernie "Smoky" Smith, Vancouver V.C. winner, and his bride, the former Esther Weston. They are about to cut the cake after their marriage.

### PINE ORCHARD

(April 10)

Little John Boake of Toronto is visiting with his uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Boake and family.

Mrs. R. Gold of Toronto visited at the Brandon home.

We welcome Mr. and Mrs. Thompson into their new home formerly occupied by the Hood family.

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Lundy left on Monday for California where Mr. Lundy will be engaged in carpenter work for several months.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Eveleigh and sons visited the Chapman home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Baxter entertained his parents over the holiday.

Mr. and Mrs. Pringle of Zephyr have been engaged by George Sproxtion for the coming year.

Mrs. P. Tidman and Mrs. Silver motored to Milton one day last week.

Sorry to report Mrs. R. Chapman is confined to bed. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Jack Sproxtion spent a few days in Toronto and returned home with a thoroughbred dog he won at a popular radio program. Jack declares a man's best friend is his dog.

### MARRIED 35 YEARS

Mr. and Mrs. E. Gordon Lehman, of Markham, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary at their home, April 3. Mrs. Lehman was the former Lulu Morriss of Peaches, Markham township. They were married by Rev. J. A. Moir at the Presbyterian manse, Markham. They farmed for a number of years in Markham and Pickering townships. Six years ago they moved to Markham village.

For their anniversary celebration, they entertained 25 at supper, and received more guests during the evening. Attending were their family of four children, Blake and Charles, of Goodwood, Bruce, of Markham, and Isobel of Toronto, their four grandchildren and the brothers and sisters of the bride and groom of 35 years ago. The oldest guest present was the father of the groom, Chester Lehman, formerly of Markham, now of Toronto, who is 83 years of age this week. There were guests present from Toronto, Markham and Green River where they lived previously to moving to Markham village.

### NENDICK SALE \$3500

Russel Nendick of Stouffville who has been farming in Scott township north of Uxbridge town for several years, held an auction sale there last week which realized \$3,500. There were no spectacular prices, but bids were free and generally substantial. Mr. and Mrs. Nendick who are leaving the farm, may take up another location in the same district. A.S. Farmer went up from Stouffville to conduct the auction, and Mrs. Christie Armstrong, aunt of Russel's, was an interested visitor.

### SNOW REMOVAL FUND IS SPENT NONE FOR FALL

Toronto and York Roads Commissions' snow removal and sanding budget of \$107,000 has been exhausted, it was reported at a meeting of the commission.

This leaves the commission without funds for November and December.

"We have here what is sure to be a deficit unless we save on our other expenditures," Chairman Norman Long pointed out.

Snow removal from Jan. 1 to March 31 cost the county \$72,244.56. This is \$25,244.56 over the estimates. Sanding of roads was below the \$60,000 estimate and the county relied on the remainder for snow removal.

Chief Engineer Harvey Rose pointed out that he had received a bill from York Township for removing snow on county roads which amounted to over \$5,000.

"I had no idea that this work was being done and this is the first intimation I got," he told the commission.

The commission agreed not to pay the amount, contending it was not consulted.

A contract for surface treatment on certain roads was awarded to the Ellins Construction Company. The work, including materials which the county will supply, will amount to \$96,000. Mr. Rose said that last year only \$46,000 had been spent on the same type of work.

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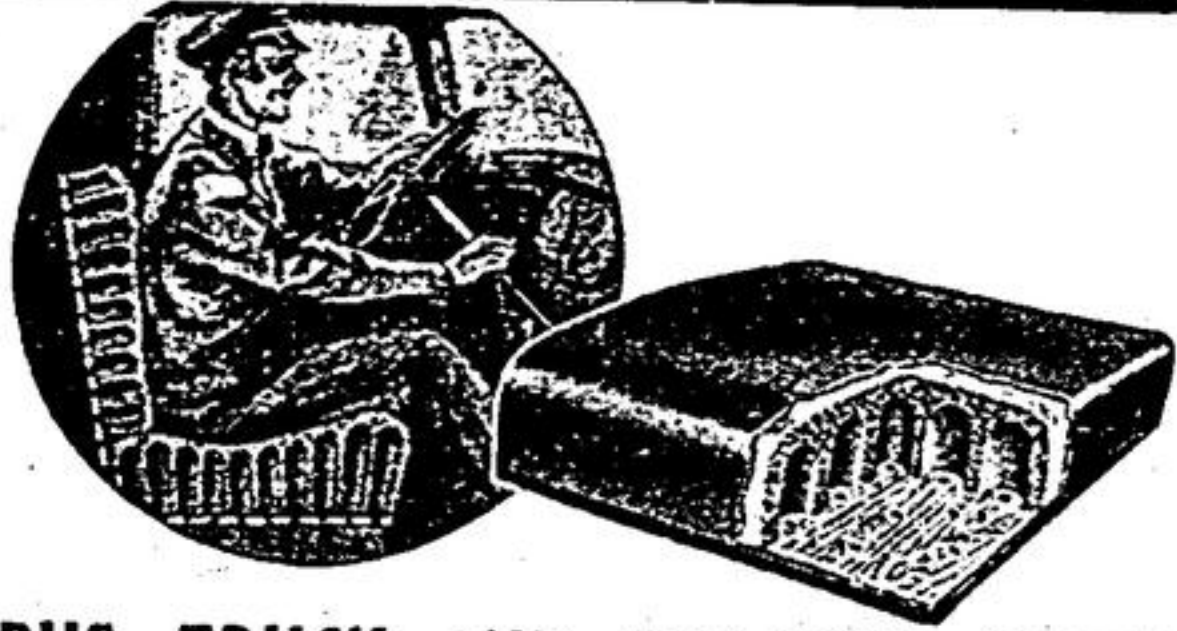
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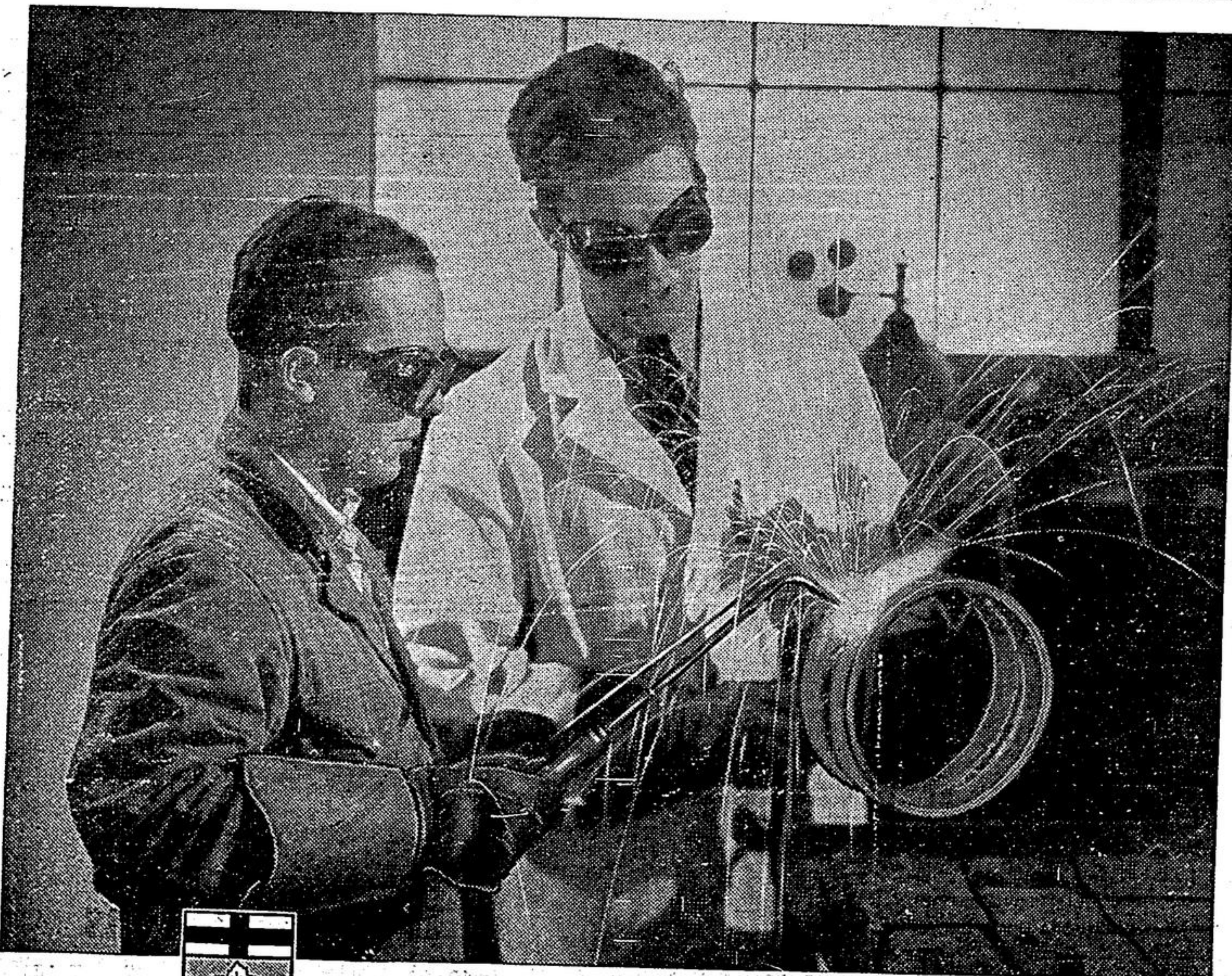
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### HANDS AT WORK ...

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