

# TESTING OF KING SAUL

STORY BY THE "HIGHWAY AND BYWAY" PREACHER

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Scripture Authority:—1 Samuel, Chapter 13.

## SERMONETTE.

"What hast thou done?"—This is the voice of God speaking through his servant the prophet Samuel, to Saul. It is the question that pierces like a two-edged sword to the innermost conscience and opens to the light the sin that is hid.

And the manner of Saul's reply indicates his sense of guilt which he was reluctant to admit. He immediately begins to make excuses.

Excuses flow out of a guilty heart.

Saul was convicted out of his own mouth. The prophet needed not to enumerate in detail Saul's wrong doing. Saul knew as soon as the prophet had asked: "What hast thou done?" And he sought to evade the real issue and to confuse the question by telling what the other fellow had done. What a common human failing.

Saul feared the loss of men more than forfeiture of the favor of God. He sacrificed future good upon the altar of seeming present need. Did you ever do that?

"Thou hast done foolishly."—Saul endeavored to show that he had done wisely, but the prophet plainly characterized his act as foolish.

Any act which violates a Divine command is foolish, no matter how politic or wise it may appear at the moment.

Sin ever is folly.

If as we go blindly into the ways of sin we could realize the real import of our acts and appreciate their ultimate consequences would not we, too, designate such acts as foolish? How foolish, indeed, is the man who goes counter to God's law. In the breaking of these laws abideth death, but "in the keeping of God's law there is great reward."

Saul had not the moral courage to stand alone with God. He had not the faith to see God's power, nor the patience to wait the coming of the prophet. Thereby he proved unworthy the place he had been called to fill and unable to rise to the larger destiny which would certainly have been his had he claimed it by obedience and faith.

"The Lord hath sought him a man after his own heart."—To and fro through the earth God's eyes are searching for the men who shall do his will. It is not favoritism which God shows, but recognition of loyalty to his cause and obedience to his commands. To you and to me comes the call to go forth and utterly destroy the Amalekites of sin, and just to the extent to which we gird on the armor of God and stand with him and perform all that he has commanded, just so far and no further will he entrust the further work of his kingdom to our hands. And where willful failure comes, he takes from us and gives to more faithful hands.

## THE STORY.

KING SAUL paused in his feverish pacing back and forth before his tent door as the messenger came up. "Speak!" he commanded gruffly as the man hesitated in a confused, embarrassed manner. "More deserts?" he asked, savagely, without giving the man a chance to obey his first command.

"Yes," admitted the man, and even in the darkness of midnight King Saul could see as he pressed close to him and peered in his face that fear and discouragement were written there. "And those who remain," the man went on, "are fearful and afraid."

With a guttural sound, half a groan, half an angry exclamation, the king turned sharply and paced up and down a few times with quick, nervous stride, and then, stopping abruptly before the man again, he demanded, half appealingly:

"And what is to be done? If the Philistines learn of the straits into which we are cast, they will sweep down upon us without further delay and no man will escape with his life."

"If Samuel, the prophet, would come," hesitatingly spoke the man.

"Yes," broke in the king, bitterly, "did he not say that he would come ere this? It is now the seventh day, and still he hath not appeared."

"It might be," continued the man, not noting the interruption, "that offerings which he would make would reassure the people and lead to victory."

"Go," ordered Saul, with sudden determination, "tell the people to assemble before me to-morrow. Bring burnt and peace offerings."

The man disappeared in the dark-

ness and Saul resumed his pacing back and forth.

"Why should I not?" he muttered to himself. "Am I not king? and to whom should the people look for encouragement but to the king?"

For nearly seven days now he had held his little army together on the promise and expectation that upon the coming of Samuel the fortune of the army of Israel would change. But each day as he had waited he had seen his army dwindle, and he knew that even those who remained were faint of heart, and unfit to enter into conflict with their powerful foe, the Philistines.

The latter had gathered a strong army and had come up upon the land and encamped at Michmash, the people fleeing before the advancing host and hiding in the rocks and caves, and the thickets and wheresoever there was afforded shelter. In fact many of the people became so panic-stricken as to flee across the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. And King Saul had done the best he could. He had given the signal throughout the land calling the fighting men together and sought by every means to reassure the people.

At the very beginning of the trouble, soon after Jonathan, Saul's son, had thrown down the pillar of the Philistines which they had erected to indicate their rule over the country, word had been sent to Samuel of the critical condition of affairs and he had sent back word that he would come within seven days. Day after day Saul had waited, each day finding the numbers and the courage of his army growing less until at last on the night on which we find him pacing back and forth before his tent, he has grown angry and desperate. Then came the messenger telling of the final desertions, and the sudden resolve to take matters in his own hands. And then began a struggle with his conscience which ended only with the coming of daylight and the assembling of the people in accordance with his command.

All night long he fought the battle in his heart. He felt uneasy and troubled at the thought of assuming the priestly function and offering the sacrifices which it was lawful only for the priest to offer. But on the other hand, he argued, here were the desperate exigencies of the situation, and what was to be done? And as king was he not over and above all others in the kingdom? Who was there to dare call into question his acts? Had not Samuel failed him? Why need he longer wait on him? In fact, all depended upon prompt action.

Thus reasoning in the pride and conceit of his own heart, he forgot to count God in as a vital factor to success. He remembered not that it was safer to wait on God even to the very brink of seeming misfortune than it was to plunge forward trusting entirely upon human strength and wisdom. He belittled the thought of God and exalted his own position before the people, so that it seemed at least to him that his position and authority were at stake, and that the whole welfare of the nation centered around his decisive action.

Thus it came to pass that with the coming together of the remnant of his army on the following morning Saul was prepared with proud and willful spirit to make the offerings which the people brought before him. With punctilious care Saul performed all the sacred functions while the people looked on with admiring and approving glances. So intent was Saul upon the task in hand and so absorbed were the people watching their king that they did not observe the quiet approach of a figure wrapped close in his dark robe and moving slowly, but watching intently the scene before him. Saul had just laid the bleeding sacrifice upon the smoking altar and had turned toward the people as though he would bless them, when lo before him he sees a figure that causes him to start and tremble. At the same moment the people catch sight of the new comer, and observing the familiar form, they shout:

"Samuel has come!" "Samuel!" are the faltering words which drop from Saul's paling lips, and he struggles to gain control of himself. He steps forward and salutes the prophet deferentially, but Samuel, with an imperious gesture, stops him, and in stern tones demands:

"What hast thou done?" "Because that I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash; therefore, said I, the Philistines will come down upon me at Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the Lord. I forced myself, therefore, and offered a burnt offering."

"Thou hast done foolishly," Samuel replied. "Thou hast not kept the commandment of the Lord thy God, which he commanded thee; for now would the Lord have established thy kingdom upon Israel forever. But now thy kingdom shall not continue; the Lord hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the Lord hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the Lord commanded thee."

And Samuel without further word arose and returned to Gibeah, leaving Saul to ponder his words, the awful import of which only the years to follow could unfold.

**Shun Inquisitive People.** Beware of inquisitive people, an excessive curiosity to know all is generally accompanied by as great a desire to tell it all again.—Worship's Life.

## DUTCH DINNER FOR SUMMER.

Satisfactory Meal When the Temperature is Soaring.

For a cold Dutch dinner for a hot summer night place upon a polished table a large lace centerpiece and under each plate place a doily to match. In the middle of the table put a boat or shoe of Dresden china filled with blue corn flowers. Use glass candlesticks with white candles and blue and white empire shades, blue and white Dresden china, and cut glass, when it is needed. Use as little silver as possible in serving. The place cards are blue and white windmills with the name on the upright arm of paddle. A blue and silver fan, swung by white ribbons from the back of each lady's chair is a dainty and acceptable souvenir, while at each man's plate a dainty bunch of corn flowers for his buttonhole may be placed. If possible have the maids in blue dresses with white aprons and Dutch caps. Olives, salted nuts, bonbons, and so on, should be served in china wheelbarrows, boats and shoes. Above the table swing a large five-pointed star of ferns and depend from the center a crescent of corn flowers.

If a still greater transformation in the appearance of the room is desired, slip covers of blue and white Dresden silk may be used for the dining-room chairs. These are cool looking and dainty, also allowable for the season. The menu suggestions always are flexible and may be changed according to the ideas of the hostess or to the possibilities of the market at this season.

**A Curtain Effect.** A pretty way to arrange bedroom window curtains is this: The upper sash is hung with a dainty flowered muslin, and the lower with a filmy madras. Both are simple sash curtains and thus will be easily laundered. The colored curtain is protected from the light by the shade, which is usually drawn to the middle of the window. For this reason the colored curtain will not be liable to fade.

The colored curtain is much prettier if ruffled with white. This scheme gives a charming touch of color at the windows, but admits of the use of the sash curtain as a screen for the lower part of the window.

**Handy Clothes Rack.** A good clothes rack is made of lumber one inch square, of oblong shape, the longest side being five feet and the shortest side three feet in length. One side is hinged to the wall at a convenient height and place. A small screw pulley wheel is screwed into the ceiling directly above the center of the frame. Attach a rope to the outside edge of the frame, passing it through the pulley above so as to raise or lower as you wish. Small ropes are fastened to the frame lengthwise, in parallel lines, nine inches apart. When not in use this can be drawn close to the wall.

**A Hot Weather Dessert.** Pineapple Cream.—The foundation for this delicious dessert is a can of pineapple, or a pineapple large enough to fill a pint measure when shredded. Shred very fine and bring to a boil with half a pound of sugar, strain over half an ounce of gelatin which has been dissolved in just enough cold water to cover it. When cool, but not yet formed, stir in the beaten whites of three eggs and half a pint of whipped cream; pour into a mold and set on ice to cool. If you use the canned, shredded pineapple, which is almost like preserves, you will not need to add the sugar.

**Making Eyelets.** There's a new way of making those troublesome eyelets discovered by a girl who is locally famous for inventing labor-saving ideas. It consists in running the eyelet around and then cutting it from end to end and buttonholing it, making the stitches as deep as those upon the usual buttonhole, but reversing the stitch so that the edge stitches back upon the material instead of around the open edge of the eyelet. It is about one-fifth as hard to do as the usual way, and the difference in length of time is even more marked.

**Frozen Pineapple Souffle.** Pare and grate two pineapples. The pulp should measure one pint; add to this the juice of one lemon and a pint of sugar. Cover half a box of gelatin with half a cup of cold water and let stand half an hour; beat the yolks of six eggs until creamy; then add to the pineapple and mix well. Put gelatin over hot water; when it is dissolved add to pineapple; turn the mixture into the freezer; when it begins to thicken add one pint of whipped cream; pack in salt and ice and let stand about three hours.

**Cocoanut and Rice Pudding.** Cook half a cup of rice with three pints of milk and let it cook till very soft; then cool it. Beat together the yolks of five eggs and the whites of three, a cup of sugar and a cup of grated cocoanut; if this last is desiccated; soften with a little milk and squeeze dry. Stir in the rice and bake in the oven till it is a custard. Make a meringue of the two whites of the eggs and put on top. Serve cold.

**Keep Old Strainers.** Don't throw away your old coffee strainer. Hang it over the sink and use, when emptying tea or coffee pot, to catch the tea leaves or coffee grounds, which can be then emptied on to a paper and put in to garbage. A strainer about three or three and one-half inches in diameter is suitable for this purpose.

## IN SOUTH AFRICAN GOLD MINE.



A rock drill in a mine in the Rand.

## GAVE ROAD TO AFRICA

JAMES STEVENSON, SCOTCHMAN, DONATED \$25,000 FOR WORK.

Route Lies Between North End of Lake Nyassa and South End of Lake Tanganyika, Distance of 211 Miles.

London.—James Stevenson, a wealthy Scotchman, gave \$25,000 to build a road between the north end of Lake Nyassa and the south end of Lake Tanganyika in Central Africa about 25 years ago. He was convinced that nothing would help more to develop Africa than good highways. It took two years to build the road, and it was well built. Its length is 211 miles. Apart from the great usefulness of the road the white men there have always said that it has been a powerful civilizing agency.

It has helped to accustom the natives of that densely populated region to work for the white, and to use calico and other European articles. The work of construction was the first instance on a large scale of the utilization of native labor in Central Africa. Many trained laborers now live along the road and engage in transport service between the two great lakes.

This highway is known as the Stevenson road. Mr. Chrapkowski, an official in the German service, who recently traveled over the road, has written an interesting account of it. He says that though nothing has been done to maintain the road built 25 years ago, it is still, with the single exception of the road between Victoria Nyanza and Tanganyika, the best highway in Central Africa. As nothing has been done to maintain the road, it is now covered with grass, but travelers say this is really an advantage, as the vegetation has helped to keep the road from washing, and it is also better for the feet of the carriers, who dislike to walk on those stretches where there is no grass, for it is as hard as stone and hurts their feet.

The usefulness of the road is proved by the fact that porters carrying 60

pounds on their backs make an average of 20 miles a day, while the usual journey is only ten miles. The road passes entirely through British territory, and the government has erected a station every 20 miles where caravans may spend the night.

There is provision at each station to put all the freight under cover, comfortable brick and concrete houses afford excellent conditions for a good night's rest, and there are cookhouses where the meals of the caravan are prepared. One of the neighboring chiefs is held responsible for the cleanliness and good order of each station. He receives a monthly salary of a few shillings from the government, and a few yards of calico from each caravan passing over the route.

**GOES TO PRISON AT 81 YEARS.** Dangerous Counterfeiter Is Sent to Penitentiary at Advanced Age.

Philadelphia.—"Old Sam" Tate, said to be the most dangerous counterfeiter in the country, has been sent to the eastern penitentiary by Judge Holland for eight years.

Since 1872 Tate has spent more than half of his time in jail, and it is probable that his sentence will finish him, for he told the court yesterday that he was 81 years old. William Ingber and Charles Busramonte, who were tried with him, were sentenced to 18 months and three years respectively.

Only last March Tate was on trial for counterfeiting, with George Ward, Michael Joyce, James Gaughan and Catherine O'Donnell, but by shrewd coaching of the other defendants Tate was acquitted. Ward, Joyce and Gaughan were sent to prison, and the O'Donnell woman, although convicted, was released in her own recognition.

Tate put up a hard fight. His counsel declared that he was being "systematically hounded" by the secret service men; that he was a reputable junk dealer and that in the course of his business he had come into possession of the supposed counterfeiting material found in his house by the operatives.

## NAMES SHIRT-WAIST INSPECTOR.

Mayor Busse, of Chicago, Appoints Female Garment Critics.

Chicago.—A "shirt-waist" inspector is the latest addition to the city hall payroll. Just what the remuneration and the duties of the inspector are to be no one exactly knows, but because Mrs. Ida Cross is displeased with a 69-cent shirt waist she purchased at a state street department store, the inspector was appointed. Louis M. Featherstone, whose knowledge of the secrets of the construction of the "peekaboo" and other shirt waists is said to be above reproach, is the first "inspector."

His appointment was made because Mayor Busse and the other heads of the city hall are too gallant to see one of the fair sex in trouble. Monday afternoon, being bargain day, Mrs. Cross purchased a shirt waist that attracted her attention in a store. After taking it home her ideas changed, and she returned it and asked that her money be refunded. A polite refusal followed, with the explanation that the waist was slightly soiled. If Mrs. Cross would pay to have it laundered the company would be glad to refund the difference, she was told.

Appeals to the managers of the store proved fruitless; they gave the same reply. Having heard that Mayor Busse is a friend of those in trouble,

Mrs. Cross told him her story and asked his aid.

"I will appoint a special 'shirt waist' inspector," he exclaimed. "Here, Featherstone, you know all about shirt waists, don't you?"

"Surely," replied the unsuspecting Featherstone. "Peekaboo, fancy and plain. Linen, calico or silk. Plaited—"

"That's enough. You are now the official shirt waist inspector for the city of Chicago. Look into this."

## Museum Gets 1800 B. C. Statue.

New York.—Theodore H. Davis, the archaeologist, has arrived from Europe, bringing with him one of the oldest relics in the world. This is an alabaster statue of Queen Teie, a famous Egyptian, whose tomb Mr. Davis recently discovered. The statue dates from 1800 B. C. It will be presented to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Mr. Davis said that they worked three years excavating the tombs of the kings in Thebes, and it will be two years more before the work is completed.

## Publicity to End Sunday Ball.

Sterling, Ill.—Irate citizens of the farming community east of this city who have been waging war on Sunday ball games have decided to issue a paper called the Palmyra Searchlight. This paper is to contain the names of all the persons who attend the games.

## BABY HAS A RECORD

SIX-YEAR-OLD GIRL TRAVELS 200,000 MILES.

Meets Pope and the President—Roo-velt Gave Her Flowers, but Leo's Reception Was Not So Effusive.

Boston.—With a traveling record of about 200,000 miles to her credit, the "Baby Globetrotter," as Miss Kathryn Leonore Adella Glenwood Moran is called, has made the announcement she wants to "go to housekeeping," adding she has traveled as much as she cares to and she now prefers to establish and remain in a home of her own.

Miss Leonore is only six years old, but she has visited more different countries and more inaccessible personages than the average diplomat can boast of in a lifetime.

Crowned heads of Europe have recognized the little girl, she was admitted to the presence of the late Pope Leo XIII, being the only child under 12 years who was ever permitted an audience with his Holiness.

"I guess the pope didn't think much about me, though," little Miss Leonore admitted. "He was so old and I was so young, but I remember President Roosevelt very well. He seemed 'delighted' to see me, and gave me a bouquet of flowers from his library table and I carried them with me to have a photograph taken. We were at Glenwood Springs, Col., when he was out there on his big hunt, and our hotel was the executive headquarters. That is where I was born, and I think that of all the places I have ever seen I prefer Glenwood Springs to all others. You see, part of my name is 'Glenwood.'"

"Yes, my name is rather long," little Miss Leonore said as she sat on a chair out of all proportions to her size and chatted about herself with a newspaper representative. The name under discussion did seem burdensome long for the delicate, dainty miss with blue eyes, who could talk with such familiarity of personages and places.

"I am sometimes called 'Miss Kathryn,' but I much prefer 'Miss Leonore,'" she said with childish sweetness.

While she has received unusual attention on account of her intelligence, the little "globetrotter" has not forgotten a winning childish manner and talks of her travels as naturally as most children talk of their toys. She has been interviewed for numerous papers and was the subject of an article in a Tokyo paper, when the only thing she was able to read was her own name. She afterward received about 50 post cards from Japanese children.

Miss Leonore is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Moran, of Chicago. Mr. Moran is one of the best-known newspaper men in the west and was one time managing editor of the Chicago Times. Like her father, the little girl inclines toward a literary career.

"I expect to begin to write as soon as we go to housekeeping," she announced, "that's one reason why I think that we should settle down. I can't do very much this way, you know. We are going to the Klondike this summer, again. Our trip up there last summer was interesting. Beautiful flowers grow beside the snow banks, but I feel that I have traveled enough. I want to go to Glenwood and live quietly for a change."

## OLD CUSTOM FROM GERMANY.

Goshenhoppen Reformed Church Decorates 2,000 Graves.

Pennsburg, Pa.—A religious observance altogether new in southeastern Pennsylvania, and probably conducted for the first time in the United States, took place the other day at the New Goshenhoppen Reformed church. It was a service in memory of the dead, and the principal feature was the decoration of 2,000 graves in the graveyard with flowers.

The idea was suggested to Rev. C. M. De Long, pastor, when he visited Nuremberg, Germany, some years ago. One Sunday in June nearly the whole populace assembled in the cemeteries, placed flowers on the graves and then attended religious services.

All afternoon and next morning until ten o'clock the members of the congregation brought great quantities of flowers to the churchyard and placed them on the graves. When the time arrived for beginning the services the great expanse of flower-decked graves presented a scene of rare beauty. An appropriate sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. De Long.

## Strange Bird Is Shot.

Knoxville, Tenn.—Inhabitants in the region of Zion's Mill, Lee county, Virginia, are greatly puzzled over the discovery of a strange bird in the mountains near by. J. F. Witt, a merchant of that place. The bird is of great size, measuring nine feet from tip to tip. The feathers are perfectly white, except the tips of the wings, which are black.

Its head and bill are 18 inches in length, its webbed feet are seven inches across. A great pouch under its bill holds a gallon of water and this gives the idea that the bird must be of the pelican family, found in southern waters. It is supposed that the bird was driven to the north by a storm and lost its bearings. It will be brought here, mounted and exhibited.