THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY, HERTFORD. N. C., FRIDAY. AUGUST 22, 1952.

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DAVID BECOMES KING

International Sunday School Lesson For August 24, 1952.

Memory Selection: "Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."-I Samuel 16: 7.

Lesson Text: I Samuel 18: 1-5, 14-16; 22: 1-2; II Samuel 5: 1-5.

Our lesson for today concerns the early years in the life of Israel's great king, David. Probably the three outstanding characters in the minds of all Jews are the historic figures of Moses, the liberator from Egyptian, or moses, the interator from Egyptian, bondage, Samuel, the great judge and prophet, and David, the glorious king. Shortly after the final break be-tween the king. Saul, and the old pro-phet. Samuel, the latter received a commission from Jehovah to annoint. a new ruler. This alarmed the old prophet, who feared the wrath of Saul, but Jehovah authorized him to perform his task under the guize of offering a sacrifice.

So, Samuel proceeded to the town of Bethlehem, full of historic asso-ciations for the Jewish people. Here Jacob's beloved Rachel had died and not long before had occurred the ro-mance of the Moabitess Ruth and Boaz. Samuel called upon Jesse to attend the sacrifice and to bring his sons. Jesse had alien blood in his ancestry, for he was descended from the harlot of Jericho. However, for three generations, his people were Jewish and that prevented any question of his ancestry.

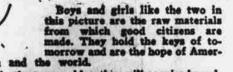
So, the sons of Vesse were exhibited to the prophet Samuel. The first one attracted the prophet's attention, but the divine message came, reject-ing him: "Look not on his coun-tenance, or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him: for Jehovah seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance but Jehovah looketh upon the heart." What a timely warning this is to us in this year of political campaigns and important national elections!

From the sons of Jesse, Samuel se-lected the youngest-David, the shep-herd boy. Realizing that it was he who was divinely chosen, Samuel an-nointed him as the future king. From then on, David's career became very interesting. As mentioned last week he was summoned to the royal palace because of his skill as a musician, in

order to soothe the troubled king. Jonathan, the king's son, and Mich-al, the king's daughter, both fell in love with him. The friendship between Jonathan and David is a beautiful one to relate. Jonathan's devo-tion to this shepherd lad is superbly unselfish. David's behavior in the court of the King is described as be-ing "wise." and was such that all of the people loved him. Saul, seeing this love hermes insandly isclove this love, became insanely jealous and would have killed him, had not David escaped from him. This jealousy of the king, which led to David's years in exile, were not futile years for him. Seeking refuge as an outlaw in the wild country west of the Dead Sea, David drew around him a motley crew of followers. They included his own brethren and "every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented." He became their captain. In all, there were about four hundred in his company. His ability to keep this group in order and to win them to loyalty to him gives proof of his great power of leadership. Thus, during the intervening years between his call by God to the king-ship of Israel and his actually as-suming the throne upon the death of both Saul and the heir-spparent, Jon-athan, God was preparing his man for the task to which he had been call-id Realizing the responsibilities of his realizing the responsibilities of his position, David went to God, seek-ing guidance. God told him to go into Judah and make his headquar-ters at Hebron. David obeyed, mov-ing his family and his large force of men there. Maked by the princes of Judah to accept the crown over their tribe, David accepted and was of Uudan to accept the crown over their tribe, David accepted and was thus recognized as king by his fel-low tribesmen, but by them only. The result was that, although Dav-id's designation by Sainuel to the kingship was generally known and he was a popular choice, yet, for seven and a half years, he ruled over only a small portion of the people of Usrael. David's first act, upon as-cending to the throne of Judah, was to send thanks to the men of Jabeah-giled for their kindness in burying King Saul. This was un set of thoughtfulness and also one of the because, by this act, he expressed his need appreciation to them, but also hegeines to himself. However, the other porthern trices united with Ab-ner, the captain of the northern army, and for seven and a half years, there was a dual kingdom in Israel. Fin-ally, representatives of the northern tribes came to Hebron and asked (Continued On Page Two)

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THE KEYS OF TOMORROW

As they grow older, they will acquire knowl-edge and receive training designed to fit them for the duties and responsibilities of life. They will realize that they have an important stake in government and in human society as a whole.

But they must be trained—and must train themselves—to meet these responsibilities as they develop. They must be taught that obedi-ence to law and respect for the rights of others is essential to the common good.

There is no better training in the elements & good citizenship than is embodied in the sachings of the Church and the great prin-iples of the Bible. They are the touchstone & good citizenship and the spiritual basis of ur inherited faith.

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ALL POR THE CHURCH The Church is the greatest factor tor on earth for the building of character and good elitenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization earn survive. There are four sound resons why every person should ottend services regularly and sup-port the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his scale. (3) For the sake of his community and notion. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and ma-terial support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

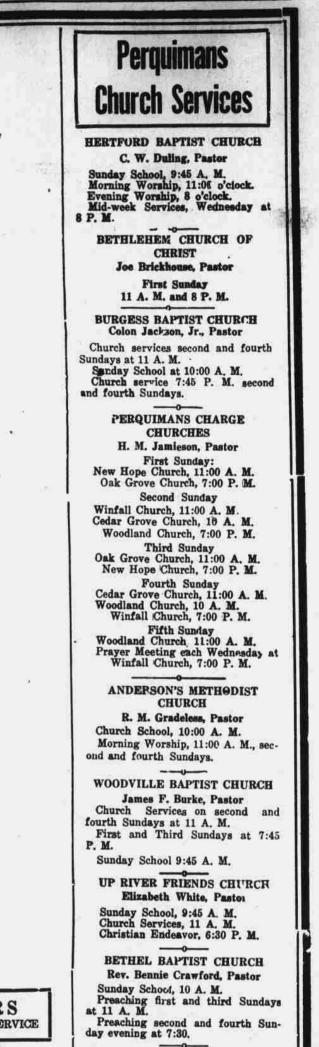
THE CHURCH FOR ALL

ALL FOR THE CHURCH

25-32 12-18 13-16 18-30 21-38 45-52 10-18 16 16 11 Friday

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