

SABBATH, April 27.—**LESSON IV.—The Lord with Joseph.**—Gen. xxxix. 1-6; 20-23.

Leader. 1. And Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hands of the Ishmaelites, which had brought him down thither. *Psa. cv. 17.*

School. 2. And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. 1 Sam. xvi. 18.

L. 3. And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand. *Psa. 1. 3.*

S. 4. And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.

L. 5. And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the Lord was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.

S. 6. And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not aught he had, save the bread which he did eat. And Joseph was a goodly person, and well favored. 1 Sam. xvi. 12.

L. 20. And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were bound; and he was there in the prison.

S. 21. But the Lord was with Joseph, and showed him mercy, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. *Psa. cvl. 46; Prov. xvi. 7.*

L. 22. And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer of it.

S. 23. The keeper of the prison looked not to anything that was under his hand; because the Lord was with him, and that which he did, the Lord made it to prosper.

TOPIC—Good out of evil.

Golden Text—And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God.—Rom. viii. 28.

LESSON SCHEME.

BIBLE SEARCHINGS.

2 Sam. vi. 11, 12. Eph. iii. 1. *Psa. lxxix. 12.*
 Heb. xi. 23. 1 Sam. ii. 6, 7. *Act. xvi. 25.*
 2 Sam. xiv. 25. Dan. vi. 2, 3. *Dan. vi. 22, 23.*
Psa. cv. 17, 18. 1 Sam. xvi. 12.

Outline:

- I. SLAVE, v. 1-3;
- II. OVERSEER, v. 4-6;
- III. PRISONER, v. 20;
- IV. MASTER, v. 22, 23.

Recite *Title, Topic, Golden Text, Selected Verses, and Outline.*

1. How came Joseph into the hands of the Ishmaelites?

Who was Potiphar? v. 1.

What was Joseph's condition now? v. 2.

What friend had Joseph in his lowly condition? v. 2.

What is the result of having "God with us"? [We "find grace" both in the sight of God and man.]

2. What effect had Joseph's right living upon his master? v. 3.

Does not the world acknowledge the power of holy living?

What is the command of our Saviour given in Matt. v. 16?

What position had Joseph in Potiphar's household? v. 4.

Is diligence in worldly matters consistent with a holy life? Rom. xii. 11.

3. Was Joseph continued in his high position? v. 20.

Was he put in prison for crime, or for steadfastness to the right?

Is it a disgrace to be put into prison for obeying God? [Illustrations; Daniel, John the Baptist, Peter, Paul, and Silas.]

Did Joseph's imprisonment deprive him of God's favor? v. 21. [Recite GOLDEN TEXT;]

4. What effect did Joseph's right living have upon the keeper of the prison? v. 21.

Would Joseph thus have been blessed if God had not been "with him"?

Did Joseph's happiness depend upon his worldly position?

Where, from this lesson, do we learn—

1. That God is ever present, blessing his true servants?

2. That it is our duty to make the best of the circumstances in which we are placed?

3. That our father's God should be remembered when away from our homes?

4. That new privileges bring new responsibilities?

That in the midst of prosperity we may be in danger?

6. That the favor of the world often turns to persecution?

7. That righteous living benefits not only its possessor, but all who come in contact with it.

Song of the Fourth Month.

Yet Jacob's God was with him there;
 He saw his grief and heard his prayer,
 And, skilled in wisdom, made him stand
 Before the monarch of the land.

Chorus.—O who by searching e'er can find
 The treasures of immortal mind;
 Or penetrate the wondrous plan
 That rules the destiny of man?

