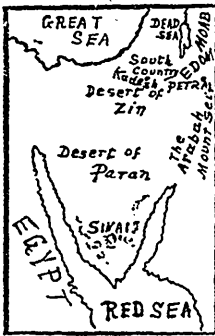


Thou shalt be over my house ; have charge of all Pharaoh's affairs ; a sudden promotion, but remember the stern experience Joseph has had. He has proved himself loyal to God and faithful to his earthly master before this. According unto thy word. Legislative as well as executive powers were to belong to Joseph. Only in the throne will I be greater. Only on state and ceremonial occasions would Pharaoh's supremacy be seen.

II. A RULER PROCLAIMED.—42-44. Pharaoh took . . his ring ; his signet ring with a royal seal for state documents and proclamations. Joseph would have power to use this seal, which was the same as being able to use Pharaoh's signature without consulting him. Arrayed . . in vestures of fine linen ; official robes showing his rank. Put a gold chain ; also a sign of rank and favor. Ride in the second chariot ; because the order of the chariot showed position. Cried before him ; as he passed by. Bow the knee ; do honor by bowing. Shall no man lift up . . hand or foot ; a strong way of saying that the whole life of the nation would be under Joseph's control.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



EGYPT lies in the northeast corner of Africa and touches that corner of Asia which contains Palestine. The country is remarkable for its extreme fertility. It was this fact that brought Israel first in contact with Egypt. We read of Abraham going down to Egypt because of famine in Canaan. This fertility depended upon the river Nile, for the land was sandy and the climate dry. The Nile, swollen with mud and melted

snows from the Abyssinian mountains, overflowed its banks annually. On subsiding it left a rich deposit, the hope of Egypt. But sometimes the river did not overflow and the result was famine. This was probably the cause of the famine in the time of Joseph.

LESSON QUESTIONS

33 What were the dreams of Pharaoh ? Who suggested Joseph as an interpreter of them ? What did

he know of Joseph ? Why was Joseph in prison ? How did Joseph interpret Pharaoh's dreams ? To whom does Joseph ascribe his skill ? (Gen. 41 : 16.) What other young man interpreted dreams ? (Dan. 4 : 19.) What else did Joseph do besides interpreting ? What was the first thing to be done ? What kind of man was to be chosen ? What powers was he to have ?

34-36 How much of the crops were to be taken ? What was to be done with it ? When was it to be used ? What parable shows the folly of no preparation ? (Matt. 25 : 1-13.)

37-41 What did Pharaoh think of the plan ? Whom did he appoint supreme ? What authority did Pharaoh give him ? Where alone was Pharaoh to be greater ?

42-44 Where was Joseph to ride ? What were the people called upon to do ? What words tell the greatness of his authority ?

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Do Christ's words about "no thought for the morrow" fall in with Joseph's plan ?
2. What place has chance in human lives ?

A PRAYER

Father, we thank thee that our lives are in thy hands, and that thou dost plan in love the events of each day. Give us grace to silence our complaints, patience to wait for the unfolding of thy plans, grit to labor on for thee when work seems fruitless. Teach us to do our best, to do this in thy fear, and to give thee all the glory for the blessings of every day. And thee we shall ever praise, through Christ. Amen.

Prove from Scripture—That Christ requires faithfulness.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 37. What benefits do believers receive from Christ at death ? A. The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass into glory ; and their bodies, being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves till the resurrection.

The Question on Missions—10. What is done in cases of sickness ? Pagan Indians call in the medicine man, who often has some good remedies made from herbs. But he also uses many foolish incantations, such as beating upon a drum to drive away the evil spirits which are belived to cause the disease. The civilized Indians call in a white doctor and use his medicine. On some reserves nurses are employed by the Government.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What are the main points in Joseph's plan ?
2. What was the signet ring for ?
3. What spirit did Pharaoh see in Joseph ?

SIGN NAME HERE