

SABBATH, April 20th.—**LESSON III.—JACOB SOLD.**—Gen. xxxvii. 33-38.

Leader. 23. And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stripped Joseph out of his coat, his coat of many colors that was on him;

School. 24. And they took him, and cast him into a pit; and the pit was empty, there was no water in it.

L. 25. And they sat down to eat bread; and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a company of Ishmaelites came from Gilead, with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt. Ainos vi. 6.

S. 26. And Judah said unto his brethren, what profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood?

L. 27. Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hands be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh; and his brethren were content. 1 Sam. xviii. 17.

S. 28. Then there passed by Midianites, merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver; and they brought Joseph into Egypt. Judg. vi. 3; Matt. xxvii. 9.

TOPIC—The devices of the wicked.

Golden Text—There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand. Prov. xix. 21.

LESSON SCHEME.

BIBLE SEARCHINGS.

Gen. xlii. 21.	Zech. ix. 11.	Jer. xli. 7.
Gen. xvii. 20.	Acts. xiv. 22.	Isa. li. 14.
Jer. xiv. 3.	Matt. xxvii. 28.	John xvi. 33.
Jer. xxxviii. 6.	1 Sam. xiii. 6.	Matt. xxvi. 15.

Outline :

- I. WICKED PASSIONS, v. 23, 24;
- II. HEARLESS FEASTING, v. 25;
- III. THE CONSPIRACY AND SALE, v. 27, 28.

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

I. Where were the brethren of Joseph? v. 17. Why had Joseph come to Dothan? v. 13. How did his brethren receive him? v. 23. What passions did they manifest toward him? What did they take away from Joseph? v. 23. Why did they strip him of his coat? [Because it was a token of his father's greater love for Joseph.]

Where did they cast him? v. 24.

Did they intend to kill him? v. 26.

What four sins had they in their hearts in their conduct to their brother? [1. Anger; 2. Hatred; 3. Robbery; 4. Murder.]

How does their conduct remind us of the husbandmen in the parable in Matt. xxi. 33-41.

How does their robbery of Joseph illustrate an event at the crucifixion of Jesus? [See Matt. xxvii. 28.]

2. What did the brothers do after their wicked treatment of Joseph? v. 25.

What did they show by this? [An extraordinary hardness of heart.]

3. Who appeared while they were feasting? v. 25.

Who were Ishmaelites?

Where was Gilead? [A mountain region east of the Jordan?]

What thought did their appearance suggest to Judah? v. 26.

What did he propose to his brethren? v. 27.

Who were the Midianites? [Descendants of Midian, a son of Abraham, dwelling in Arabia, and east of Canaan.]

What was done with Joseph? v. 28.

Where are we taught from this lesson—

1. That even brethren may sometimes indulge in the wickedest feelings toward each other?

2. That hatred in the heart brings sin in the life?

3. That one sin leads to another?

4. That God provides ways of escape for his children?

Song of the Fourth Month.

His brethren saw with evil eye
The hated Dreamer draw nigh;
Their brother into Egypt sold,
And broke their father's heart for gold.

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?

Tune Siloam.]

God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform;
He plants his footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust him for his grace;

HYMN.

Behind a frowning Providence
He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower.

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Home Readings.	
<i>M.</i>	Acts iv. 1-21.
<i>Tu.</i>	Gen. xxxvii. 23-28.
<i>W.</i>	Acts vi. 9-15; vii. 54-60.
<i>Th.</i>	Psa. lxxxv.
<i>F.</i>	Matt. x. 16-27.
<i>S.</i>	Psa. lxxxviii.
<i>S.</i>	Matt. x. 28-42.