

SABBATH, April 13.—**LESSON II.—The Dreams of Joseph.**—Gen. xxxvii. 3-11.

Leader. 3. Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colors. Gen. xlvii. 20.

School. 4. And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him. Matt. xii. 34.

L. 5. And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.

S. 6. And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed:

L. 7. For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.

S. 8. And his brethren said unto him, Shalt thou in-

deed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for he dreamed.

L. 9. And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more;

S. And, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

L. 10. And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy father and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?

S. 11. And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying. Acts vii. 9; Dan. vii. 23.

TOPIC—The Beloved Son.

Golden Text—I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Matt. xi. 25.

Home Readings.

M. Matt. xx. 17-23.
T. Gen. xxxvii. 3-11.
W. Acts x. 1-20.
Th. Gen. xl.
F. Matt. xli. 33-42.
S. Rev. i. 1-19.
S. Matt. xlii. 1-17.

LESSON SCHEME.**BIBLE SEARCHINGS:**

Matt. xx. 20, 21, 24. Gen. xl. 8. John vii. 5.
Gen. xlvii. 14. Gen. xxvii. 41. Deut. xxxiii. 16, 17.
1 Chron. v. 2. Gen. xliii. 26-28.

Outline:

- I. THE LOVE OF THE FATHER, v. 3;
- II. THE ENVY OF THE BROTHERS, v. 4;
- III. THE LIGHT OF THE LORD.

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

1. Where did Jacob dwell? v. 1.

How many sons had he? Gen. xxv. 22.

Who was the favorite son? v. 3.

How old was Joseph at this time? v. 2.

Who was his mother? ch. xxv. 24.

What mark of regard had Jacob given Joseph?

2. How did Joseph's brethren regard him? v. 4.

Why did they hate him?

In what way was their hatred shown?

Can you remember any other persons spoken of in the Bible who were hated because of envy or jealousy? [Gen. xxvii. 41; 1 Sam. xviii. 8, 9; Esth. iii. 5, 6; Dan. vi. 4-10.]

How does the conduct of Joseph's brethren resemble that of the Jews toward Jesus? John i. 11.

How did Joseph's father regard his dream? v. 11.

3. What was the first dream that Joseph had? The second?

Were these dreams like ordinary dreams? [They were revelations from God, showing to Joseph his future greatness and power.]

In what other instances is it recorded that

future events were foretold by dreams? [Gen. xxviii. 12; xxxi. 24; 1 Kings iii. 5; Dan. ii. 4; Matt. xxvii. 19.]

How does God now reveal himself to his people? 1 Cor. ii. 9, 10.

Is any dependence to be placed at the present day upon dreams and visions?

How does Joseph, in this lesson, remind us of Jesus?—

[1. He was a beloved son.—Matt. iii. 17.

2. A dutiful son.—John iv. 34.

3. Envied of his brethren.—John i. 11; v. 18.

4. Homage to him was predicted.—Isa. xlv. 23; Rom. xiv. 11.]

Where do we learn from this lesson—

1. That good actions may bring upon us the hatred of wicked men?

2. That the children of a good man may give him a sad heart?

3. That envy and hatred only work evil to those who possess them?

4. That God had purposes of mercy and blessing for Joseph?

Song of the Fourth Month.

Though but a youth, yet Joseph dreamed
Events his father Jacob deemed
Were idle fancies. "What," said he
"Shall we to earth bow down to thee?"

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.