

Desert. In the days of Joseph these level plains were evidently still given up to flocks and herds." An ancient Egyptian document, some centuries later than Joseph, refers to permission given to some wandering tribes from Asia to pasture their cattle in that territory.

12-15. Your eyes see. Jacob was to be convinced by the testimony of their own eyes. Benjamin; whom Jacob would more readily believe, since he had never, like the others, deceived his father. My mouth. Joseph was now speaking in his own language, not through an interpreter. Tell my father, etc.; to convince him that I am able to carry out my promise. Kissed all his brethren; even those who tied his hands and mocked his cries, as they cast him into the pit and then sold him into slavery.

Chs. 45: 16 to 46: 7 tell of Pharaoh's invitation to Jacob; of the brothers' return to Canaan; of Jacob's setting out, with his family, for Egypt; and of Jacob's vision at Beersheba.

FROM EGYPT TO CANAAN



The brethren of Joseph had a choice of two routes for their return journey from Egypt to Canaan. One of these lay along the Mediterranean coast; and the other turned inland, and ran nearer to the Dead Sea. To-day caravans may be seen plodding over the Dead Sea route on their way to Palestine. Spread out before the gaze are miles and miles of yellowish gray ground, with hardly a

tree in sight. Near the south end of the Dead Sea are long ridges of higher ground. In a modern caravan some ride on horses, some on donkeys and some on camels. The sacks of grain being taken home by Jacob's sons would be tied on the backs of donkeys, with the weight evenly distributed on each side.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1, 2 By what was Joseph so deeply moved? Why did he order his servants to leave the room? How did he then show his feelings? Whither was the news of the scene carried?

3, 4 Who did he tell his brethren he was? How were the brethren affected by the announcement? Why were they troubled? How did Joseph allay their fears? What feelings had he still towards them?

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. Describe Joseph's disclosure of himself to his brethren.....

2. Why did this disclosure trouble them?.....

3. How did Joseph remove their fears?.....

How was their ill-treatment of him recalled?

5-8 Why did Joseph not blame his brethren for their wrong-doing? Whose purpose had their evil conduct helped to carry out? For what purpose had Joseph been sent to Egypt? Explain the title "father to Pharaoh."

9-11 What invitation did Joseph send to his father? What word did he send concerning himself? Where were Jacob and his sons to settle?

12-15 How were the brethren to convince Jacob that they had actually seen Joseph? What proof were they to give of his being able to fulfil his promises?

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Does the Lesson teach that Joseph's brethren were free from blame?
2. What does God's forgiveness do for a sinner?

A LESSON FOR LIFE

In a summer hotel where there were a large number of guests, a child caused much annoyance by his constant strumming, without time or tune, on the piano which stood in a public room. One after another of the guests gave vent to his irritation in impatient speech, but at last a great pianist came into the room. Sitting down beside the child at the piano, he began to play chords in harmony with the notes struck at random by his little companion, with the result that the instrument poured forth music which delighted the listeners. It is so that God, out of the mistakes and even the sins of men, often brings His greatest blessings.

Prove from Scripture—That to be forgiven we must be forgiving.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 59. Which day of the seven hath God appointed to be the weekly sabbath? **A.** From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly sabbath; and the first day of the week ever since, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian sabbath.

The Question on Missions - 10. What are Formosan Sunday Schools like? In many of the Sunday Schools both young and old attend. The chief things taught are reading the Bible, scripture verses, new hymns and hymn tunes. The Chinese preacher also usually explains some passage of scripture, with questions, in many cases, on the passage for the previous Sunday.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise: 474 (Supplemental Lesson), 295, 304, 66 (Ps. Sel.), Ps. Sel. 106 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY), 320.