

Golden Text—If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God.—James 1 : 5.



49 And Jo'seph gathered corn as the sand of the sea, very much, until he left numbering ; for it was without number.

THE LESSON RETOLD

One night, Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, had two very strange dreams, which he longed to know the meaning of, but none of the wise men of his kingdom could tell him what they meant. Then the butler, who had long ago forgotten Joseph and all his kindness, all at once remembered him, and told the king how he had explained to him his dream in the prison.

So Joseph was sent for and brought before Pharaoh. The king told Joseph his two dreams and asked him their meaning. Joseph first told Pharaoh that it was God who helped him to tell the meanings of dreams, and then went on to say that the dreams the king had dreamt meant, that, for seven years, a great deal of grain would grow in the land of Egypt, but, for seven years after that, hardly any would grow.

Then Joseph gave the king some good advice. He said, "Save up as much as you can of the grain, when there is so much, and then there will be plenty to eat, when there is none growing in the fields. Look then for a wise man who will gather together

38 And Phar'aoth said unto his servants, Can we find *such a one* as this *is*, a man in whom the Spirit of God *is* ?

39 And Phar'aoth said unto Jo'seph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, *there is none* so discreet and wise as thou *art* :

40 Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled : only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

41 And Phar'aoth said unto Jo'seph, See, I have set thee over all the land of E'gypt.

42 And Phar'aoth took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Jo'seph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck :

43 And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had ; and they cried before him, Bow the knee : and he made him ruler over all the land of E'gypt.

44 And Phar'aoth said unto Jo'seph, I am Phar'aoth, and without thee shall no man lift up his hand or foot in all the land of E'gypt.

45 And Phar'aoth called Jo'seph's name Zaph'nath-paane'ah ; and he gave him to wife As'enath the daughter of Poti'phera priest of On. And Jo'seph went out over all the land of E'gypt.

46 And Jo'seph was thirty years old when he stood before Phar'aoth king of E'gypt. And Jo'seph went out from the presence of Phar'aoth, and went throughout all the land of E'gypt.

47 And in the seven plenteous years the earth brought forth by handfuls.

48 And he gathered up all the food of the seven years, which were in the land of E'gypt, and laid up the food in the cities : the food of the field, which was round about every city, laid he up in the same.

and put the grain into granaries, to be kept till people need it."

Pharaoh turned to his servants : "Where", he asked, "can we find a wiser man than Joseph ? He shall save up the grain." And he said to Joseph, "Because God has made you so very wise, you shall help me to manage all my people, and you shall be the greatest person in the land, next to me." And Pharaoh gave Joseph the ring off his hand, and beautiful clothes like his own, and a gold chain for his neck. He gave him, too, a chariot to ride in, and commanded the people to bow down whenever they saw him.

So Joseph, who was now only thirty years old, was made a great lord ; but he was not idle. He drove about the country in his chariot, gathering up the grain everywhere, and he built great storehouses in the cities, and filled them with the grain. He did this during all the seven years of plenty, until he had so much food stored up, that it could not be counted.

And so he spent his time, not eating and