

HOME STUDY LEAFLET.

LESSON 3.

APRIL 15th, 1894.

2nd QUARTER.

Joseph sold into Egypt. Gen. 37: 23-36.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Ye thought evil against me, but God meant it unto good." Gen. 50: 20.

COMMIT TO MEMORY vs. 26-28. CHILDREN'S HYMNAL, 127, 151, 39, 71.

PROVE THAT—Children's sins bring sorrow to parents. 2 Sam. 18: 33.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Quest. 97. What is required to the worthy receiving of the Lord's Supper?

DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the International Bible Reading Association.)

MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.	SATURDAY.	SABBATH.
Gen. 37: 23-36	Gen. 37: 13-22	Gen. 39: 1-6	Ps. 105: 16-22	Ps. 37: 1-13	Matt. 10: 21-31	1 Pet. 3: 8-17

To the Teacher—Do not credit any Scholar with having prepared the lesson who does not at least answer the questions. Take the leaflet home and assign a value to each answer, announcing the result on the following Sabbath. *Take, or send, the Leaflet to absent scholars.*

Always bring your Bible and Shorter Catechism to the Sabbath School.

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY.—Joseph was sent by his father to enquire after the welfare of his brethren who were feeding their flocks near the scene of their cruel slaughter of the Shechemites. It might be that some smouldering embers of hate would be fanned by imprudence on their part and mischief happen. Solicitous, therefore, for their safety, Jacob sent his son to ascertain whether all was well. Arrived at Sechem, Joseph was informed that his brothers had removed to Dothan, some 18 miles farther north. His approach was described by them and a plot laid to kill him, and thus bring his dreams to naught. Their wisdom and cruelty were on a level with that of Herod when he slew the babes of Bethlehem. Human wickedness may further God's plans, it can never thwart them. Desiring of saving his life, Reuben proposed that he be cast into an empty cistern, on the shallow plea that the crime would be less shocking than if they shed his blood. It was really more diabolically cruel. To him consented and our lesson describes the further proceedings.

LESSON PLAN. I. Joseph Sold. vs. 23-30. II. Jacob Sorrowing. vs. 31-36.

I. JOSEPH SOLD. 23. When Joseph was come to his brethren—At Dothan, 18 miles from Hebron. What later historical notice of Dothan, (2 Kings 6: 13). They stripped Joseph—Why did Joseph wear this coat? Probably it was his usual dress, and he was unsuspecting of the feeling of his brothers. Such a distinguished dress, moreover, being indicative of rank, would ensure him respectful treatment from strangers. Their brother's cries for mercy afterwards rang in their ears, (ch. 42: 21). In what respects is Joseph a type of Christ? **24. Cast him into a pit**—They intended to leave him here to die of starvation. The pit was an empty cistern, bottle-shaped, so escape was impossible unaided. **25. They sat down to eat bread**—Their hardheartedness became proverbial (Amos 6: 6). Read 1 John 3: 12. The worst punishment of sin is that men become insensible of their wickedness. Ishmaelites—Who was Ishmael? What other tribes were associated in the caravan? (verses 28, 30 R. V. marg.) Who were Medan and Midian? (ch. 25: 2). These tribes were all "cousins" to one another and to the sons of Jacob. Gilead—a district on the east of Jordan, rich in pasturage (Num. 32: 1), and abounding in spices and aromatic gums. (Jer. 8: 22; 46: 11). The great caravan route from Damascus to Egypt passed by Dothan. Spicery and balm and myrrh—The Egyptians used larger quantities of these substances in religious ceremonies, in embalming the dead, for medicinal purposes, and as ministering to the pleasures of the wealthy. **26. Judah said**—It is not likely that Judah knew what Reuben intended to do, and wished to