

Lesson IV.

JOSEPH SOLD INTO EGYPT

April 27, 1913

Genesis 37 : 23-36. Study Genesis, ch. 37. Read Genesis, chs. 35 to 37. Commit to memory vs. 26, 27.

GOLDEN TEXT—Love envieth not.—1 Corinthians 13 : 4 (Rev. Ver.).

23 And it came to pass, when Jo'seph was come unto his brethren, that they stript Jo'seph¹ out of his coat, ²his coat of many colours that was on him;

24 And they took him, and east him into ³a pit : and the pit was empty, there was no water in it.

25 And they sat down to eat bread : and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a ⁴company of Ish'meelites came from Gil'ead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry ⁵it down to E'gypt.

26 And Ju'dah said unto his brethren, What profit is ⁶it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood?

27 Come, and let us sell him to the ⁷Ish'meelites, and let not our hand be upon him ; for he ⁸is our brother and our flesh. And his brethren ⁹were content.

28 Then there passed by Mid'anites merchantmen ; and they drew and lifted up Jo'seph out of the pit, and sold Jo'seph to the ¹⁰Ish'meelites for twenty pieces of silver : and they brought Jo'seph into E'gypt.

29 And Reu'ben returned unto the pit ; and, behold, ¹¹Revised Version.—¹Omit out ; ²the ; ³travelling company of Ishmaelites ; ⁴Ishmaelites ; ⁵Omit and ; ⁶hearkened unto him ; ⁷And there ; ⁸he-goat ; ⁹not ; ¹⁰torn ; ¹¹garments ; ¹²to ; ¹³And his ; ¹⁴the captain.

LESSON PLAN

- I. Joseph's Captivity, 23-30.
- II. The Brothers' Deceit, 31-33.
- III. Jacob's Grief, 34-36.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association, Mr. S. C. Bailey, Secr tary, 26 Old Bailey, London, England)

M.—Joseph's dreams, Gen. 37 : 1-11. T.—The brother's plot, Gen. 37 : 12-22. W.—Joseph sold into Egypt, Gen. 37 : 23-36. Th.—The Lord directeth, Prov. 16 : 1-9. F.—True love, Prov. 27 : 4-10. S.—Confusion wrought by envy, Jas. 3 : 13-18. S.—Speak not evil, Jas. 4 : 5-12.

Shorter Catechism—Review Questions 51-53.

The Question on Missions—1. What about the early history of the Canadian Presbyterian Mission in

Jo'seph was not in the pit ; and he rent his clothes.

30 And he returned unto his brethren, and said, The child is not ; and I, whither shall I go?

31 And they took Jo'seph's coat, and killed a ¹²kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood ;

32 And they sent the coat of many colours, and they brought ¹³it to their father ; and said, This have we found : know now whether ¹⁴it be thy son's coat or ¹⁵no.

33 And he knew it, and said, ¹⁶It is my son's coat ; an evil beast hath devoured him ; Jo'seph is without doubt ¹⁷rent in pieces.

34 And Ja'cob rent his ¹⁸clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days.

35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him ; but he refused to be comforted ; and he said, For I will go down ¹⁹into the grave ²⁰unto my son mourning. ²¹Thus his father wept for him.

36 And the Mid'anites sold him unto E'gypt unto Pot'iphar, an officer of Phar'ao's, ²²and captain of the guard.

Formosa ? The Mission was founded in 1872 by the late Dr. G. L. Mackay. Dr. Mackay, at first, went from place to place with a band of followers whom he instructed and who afterwards assisted in preaching and teaching.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise: 474 (Supplemental Lesson), 404, 223, 29 (Ps. Sel.), 579 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY), 228.

Special Scripture Reading—Ps. 103 : 13-22. (To be read responsively or in concert by the whole School.)

Lantern Slides—For Lesson, B. 799, Joseph Sold By His Brethren. For Question on Missions, F. 39, Rev. Giam Cheng Hoa, Dr. Mackay's First Convert. (Slides are obtained from the Presbyterian Lantern Slide Department, Weston, Ont., at \$2.00 a dozen.)

Stereograph—For Lesson, Plain of Dothan, Where Joseph Was Sold to the Ishmaelites (Underwood & Underwood, see page 165).

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

Time and Place—About ten years after the events of last Lesson ; in the Negeb.

Connecting Links—After leaving Esau, Jacob had quietly journeyed onward to the old pasture grounds of the patriarchs in Southern Canaan.

Once again, the life of Jacob was to be troubled through a discord which broke out within the circle of his own family. Upon young Joseph, the favorite son of his favorite wife, Rachel, he had lavished unusual attention, and this angered the older but less favored sons of Leah. Joseph had unwittingly increased the fire of their angry passion by retailing to them some prophetic dreams, according to which he was to be exalted over them. His jealous brothers decide to be rid of him.

I. Joseph's Captivity, 23-30.

Vs. 23, 24. *It came to pass* ; at Dothan, about fifteen miles north of Shechem and

seventy-five miles from Hebron, the home of Isaac, whence Joseph had been sent to inquire after the welfare of his brothers, who had gone in search of pasture, first to Shechem and then on to Dothan, vs. 13-17. The brothers had formed their plan for ridding themselves of him. *Joseph* ; means, "may Jehovah add," ch. 30 : 24. *Come unto his brethren* ; likely up the valley of Shechem, "one of the prettiest bits of road in all Palestine." *They stript Joseph . . of his coat* ; the hated token of his father's affection. *The coat of many colours* (Rev. Ver.) ; Rev. Ver. Margin, "a long garment with sleeves" (see v. 3). It was the coat (or rather, tunic, an under garment) of a person of leisure, "reaching to the extremities," that is, the ankles and the wrists ; whereas the ordinary under garment was sleeveless and reached only to the knees." *Cast him into the pit* (Rev. Ver.). This had been Reuben's proposal, who appealed "to the antique horror of shed blood, which cries