

Lesson XI.

JOSEPH FORGIVES HIS BROTHERS December 15, 1918

Genesis 45 : 1-15. *Scripture Memory Verses, Rev. 22 : 1-5.

Golden Text—If ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.—Matthew 6 : 14.



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Egypt, and of all that ye have seen ; and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither.
 14 And he fell upon his brother Ben'jamin's neck, and wept ; and Ben'jamin wept upon his neck.
 15 Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them : and after that his brethren talked with him.

THE LESSON RETOLD

After Joseph's brothers sold him to the merchantmen, they took his coat of many colors and dipped it in the blood of an animal. Then they showed the coat to their father Israel and told him they had found it. The old father wept bitterly, for now he was sure that some wild beast had killed his dear son Joseph and he mourned for him day after day.

After a while famine came in the land of Canaan. The little children were crying for food and their fathers and mothers had scarcely any to give them.

One day Israel called his sons to him and told them he heard that there was plenty of corn in Egypt, and they must go down there

1 Then Jo'seph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him ; and he cried, Cause every man to go out from me. And there stood no man with him, while Jo'seph made himself known unto his brethren.

2 And he wept aloud ; and the Egypt'ians and the house of Phar'ah heard.

3 And Jo'seph said unto his brethren, I am Jo'seph ; doth my father yet live ? And his brethren could not answer him ; for they were troubled at his presence.

4 And Jo'seph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Jo'seph your brother, whom ye sold into E'gypt.

5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither : for God did send me before you to preserve life.

6 For these two years hath the famine been in the land : and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earing nor harvest.

7 And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God : and he hath made me a father to Phar'ah, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of E'gypt.

9 Haste ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus saith thy son Jo'seph, God hath made me lord of all E'gypt : come down unto me, tarry not :

10 And thou shalt dwell in the land of Go'shen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast :

11 And there will I nourish thee ; for yet there are five years of famine ; lest thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast, come to poverty.

12 And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Ben'jamin, that it is my mouth that speaketh unto you.

13 And ye shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that ye have seen ; and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither.

14 And he fell upon his brother Ben'jamin's neck, and wept ; and Ben'jamin wept upon his neck.

15 Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them : and after that his brethren talked with him.

and bring back corn for food for them and their families or they would all die of hunger.

So they started off with sacks and asses to carry back the corn which they hoped to get. One day ten men appeared before the ruler of the land of Egypt. They bowed low before him and told him who they were and what they wanted.

Joseph knew at once that these men were his own brothers, but they never imagined that this great man to whom they were bowing down was their young brother Joseph, whom they had sold some years before. Joseph was very kind to them and gave them corn in their sacks. He did not tell them who he was, but told them they must bring their

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