

HOME STUDY LEAFLET.

LESSON 2.

APRIL 8th, 1894.

1st QUARTER.

Discord in Jacob's Family. Gen. 37: 1-11.

GOLDEN TEXT: "See that ye fall not out by the way." Gen. 45: 24.

COMMIT TO MEMORY verses 3, 4. CHILDREN'S HYMNAL, 76, 12, 166, 118.

PROVE THAT—Brotherly love is a good thing. Ps. 133: 1.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Quest. 96. What is the Lord's Supper?

DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the International Bible Reading Association.)

MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.	SATURDAY.	SABBATH.
Gen. 37: 1-11	Prov. 6: 12-19	Jas. 3: 10-18	Jas. 4: 5-12	Ps. 133	1 John 2: 1-11	1 John 4: 12-21

To the Teacher.—Do not credit any Scholar with having prepared the lesson who does not at least try to 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.—At the time the events of our lesson occurred Jacob had been twelve years in Canaan. He resided for a time near Shechem. Who had built an altar there? When he left Haran God told him to go to Bethel, but he was slow in obeying the command. Perhaps he thought he had done enough when he came into the land. But God is never satisfied with half obedience. Shechem was only half way to Bethel. So He sent trouble upon him, and repeated the command. Then Jacob obeyed. How much better it would have been for him if he had gone to Bethel first. At Bethel God again blessed him, and renewed the promises he had given before. What were these? Jacob's older sons do not seem to have behaved themselves very well. They had grown up at Haran, and likely among rough companions. But Joseph was only seven years old when they left Haran and his father had given more attention to his training. He inherited the best qualities of Abraham and Isaac with the prudence and foresight of Jacob, so it is no wonder his father loved him more than the others. But however natural his partiality, it bred discord in the family, and our lesson gives three reasons for this unhappy state of affairs.

LESSON PLAN. I. Wickedness Reported. vs. 1, 2. II. Partiality Displayed. vs. 3, 4. III. Greatness Predicted. vs 5-11.

I. WICKEDNESS REPORTED. 1. Jacob remained in the land. Where did Esau go? (36: 6-8). Sojournings—The life of the patriarchs is a type of the life of the Christian. Read 1 Cor. 49: 15; Ps. 39: 12: 1 Pet. 1. 17: 2: 11. Our lessons now begin the story of Joseph. How old was he at this time? Young as he was, and the son of a wealthy father, he was not allowed to waste his time in idleness. How was he employed? Probably he was "foreman," or over-shepherd. If so he was responsible for the conduct of the others, and if they would not mind his reproofs the only thing he could do was to report them. He was no tattler, but Jacob trusted him, and it was his duty to let his father know how they conducted themselves. Never let a false sense of honor keep you from doing your duty. It is not your duty to meddle with what does not concern you, but where a trust is reposed in you be true to it at all hazards. Who were the sons of Bilhah and of Zilpah? Name the "twelve patriarchs." (ch. 35: 23-26).

II. PARTIALITY DISPLAYED. The first reason why the brothers hated Joseph was be-

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cause he was of a higher moral character, the second was his father's unwise fondness for him. **The son of his old age**—Benjamin was younger than Joseph but too young to be much of a companion to his father. When Joseph was sold into Egypt he seems to have taken his place in his father's affections, for in chapter 44: 20 he is called the son of Jacob's old age. The words may mean "a son of old age" i. e. a wise son, and refer to Joseph's intelligence and wise behaviour. **A coat of many colors**—The mummies of persons who lived in the time of Joseph have been found in ancient graves in Egypt dressed in robes which would be described as a "coat of many colors." They are long garments with sleeves, and reaching to the ankles. They are ornamented with fringes and embroidered with colored figures. Who shewed a similar mark of affection to a son? (1 Sam. 2: 19.) **Could not speak peaceably**—They could not speak civilly to him. In manner, if not in words, they shewed their dislike. Where we would say "good day," they would say "Shalom," i. e. "peace be unto thee." It may be that they could not even say this, that they refused to speak to him at all.

III. GREATNESS PREDICTED. The third cause of envy was Joseph's dreams. People generally dream about the things that occupy their minds most. And the brothers thought that if Joseph was dreaming about being superior to them it was because he thought himself superior. But Joseph does not shew any signs of this. He tells his dreams just as we often do in the morning. The stranger the dream the more we want to tell it. When the second dream comes he is so surprised that he forgets the scowling looks that greeted the first and tells about it too. Tell your teacher what the two dreams were. When were they fulfilled? (ch. 42: 6: 43: 26, 44: 14.) **The sun and the moon**—His father and mother. These are named so as to complete the family picture. His mother was dead and Leah did not live to see his greatness, (ch. 49: 31). What did Jacob think of the dreams? What wonderful dream did he once have? What dreams did Joseph afterwards interpret? How old was Joseph when he stood before Pharaoh? (ch. 41: 6). How long was he then a slave? Don't you think he would often think of these dreams and wonder when they were going to come true?

To the Scholar.—Study the lesson carefully, turning up the marginal references and reading the "Daily Portions." Then close your Bible and try to answer in writing the questions following *without accepting aid from any quarter* after you have begun to write. Then bring this leaflet to Sabbath School with you on the day of its date. If you cannot come, fill out the blank and send the leaflet (with the answers written out) to your teacher by some friend, or by mail, and you will receive credit for the work done as if you had been present. If your excuse is satisfactory, you will not lose in record of attendance.

- 1—In what part of Canaan was Jacob residing? (3)
- 2—Who were the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah? (4)
- 3—What mark of special favor did Jacob shew to Joseph? (3)
- 4—What were the three reasons why the brothers hated Joseph? (6)
- 5—What did his dreams predict? (4)
- 6—When were they fulfilled? (5)

Name,

Dear Teacher,—Please excuse my absence from Sabbath School to-day, I cannot come because I have read the "Daily Portions" and answered the questions as well as I could. I have committed to memory verses in addition to the Golden Text, and Questions in the Catechism and have recited them to I was at church
I send with this my Weekly Offering of cents.