

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department, The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

LESSON FOR MAY 18

JOSEPH MEETS HIS BRETHREN.

LESSON TEXT—Gen. 42:3-17.
GOLDEN TEXT—"Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7.

Joseph was thirty years of age when he reached his position of supreme authority, but we ought not to allow ourselves to forget those thirteen years of humiliation, during which he was betrayed, sold into slavery and neglected by those whom he befriended. Yet those were days of fidelity in his service, of victory over fierce temptation, of enduring unjust imprisonment—a long period of patient waiting but a valuable period in that now at thirty years of age he comes to this position of power fully equipped with that knowledge of men, control of himself and faith in God as to be properly fitted for the burden of responsibility thrust upon him.

Did Not Forget.

I. **The Brothers Need, vv. 3-6.** The famine was not confined to Egypt, but reached over to Canaan, where Jacob and his sons lived. The desperation of the famine is indicated by Jacob's command to buy, "that we may live, and not die." But Jacob is too old to travel, hence the brothers undertake the journey. Twenty-two years have passed since that experience when Joseph's brethren cast him into the pit. They have been years filled with wonderful experiences for Joseph. Now their attitude is changed; instead of being his tormentors they are suppliants at his feet. During these seven years of garnering Joseph had set up his own family and two sons were born, the names of whom were significant.

The possession of a child of his own would naturally quicken his inquiries as to his father's household, for he assumed that in the order of events his father must be dead.

II. **A Brother's Memory, vv. 7-17.** Joseph at once recognized his brothers, but treated them brusquely, demanding from whence they came and the purpose that brought them hither (v. 7). Again (vv. 8, 9) the text reminds us that Joseph remembered. Only God can forgive and forget. But Joseph is an inspiration to us that though we may not be able to forget we can forgive. The question might be raised, "Why then did Joseph dis-simulate?" The answer is threefold: (1) Joseph desired to ascertain the characters of his brothers. Did they remember? Yes, for they replied that they were "twelve brethren." Ten were before him, one at home and "one is not." That their characters were not entirely changed is evidenced by their words, "We are true men" (v. 11), which of course was not the truth. (2) Joseph desired to know of his father and of their home life. The accusation that the brothers are spies called forth the statement that the father, Jacob, is still alive. The third reason for this treatment developed out of these first two, viz., Joseph desired to reach his father and Benjamin, whom he had never seen. We do not commend Joseph's method as being of the highest ethical value, for his standard was not the standard of the man who knows Christ. Joseph is a type; there is only one perfect man, Jesus Christ, and Joseph points toward that promised Saviour.

Guilty Consciences.

Joseph knew his brothers told the truth about their not being spies, but he also knew that they lied when they asserted themselves to be true men and that one brother "is not." Here is the lesson of mistaken estimates of one's self and that a man's true value is known and appreciated. Little did they realize, however, that their falsehood was being read as it was uttered and that the man before whom they were standing was this same brother. Joseph affected not to believe any of their story and demanded proof (vv. 15, 16) of their assertions. After three days in jail he appeared to relent and ordered that only one of their number should remain as hostage. The result of all is shown in v. 21. After involuntarily leaving Simeon shut up in the Egyptian prison their minds traveled back to that time twenty years before and they remembered Joseph's anguish and distress when they would not hear, "therefore is this distress come upon us." Their guilty consciences are aroused.

Jacob's cry, "All things are against me," v. 36, was a mistake. Joseph was alive and exalted that he might save the life of Jacob and his children. Simeon was alive and drawing his brothers back to Egypt. Benjamin would come back safely.

Emphasize the fact that we cannot forget our wrong acts and that Joseph was not troubled by any such memories. Also emphasize the return of good for evil, Rom. 12:20, 21. Joseph's brethren were sowing the fruit of the seeds of envy and malice they had sown twenty years previously. So also was Jacob reaping the seeds of his deceit, for in spite of his great material prosperity he has great anguish of heart. We try to sow and not to reap. See that the seed thoughts in the heart are right. The grace of God forgives sin, but it remains a terrible fact in our lives.

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A street costume with skirt of blue moire and waist of blue and cream brocade silk.

SUITABLE AND PRETTY GIFTS

Few Things for Prospective Bride Are in Better Taste Than the Easily Made Sachets.

Are any of your friends engaged? If so, why not make them some pretty sachets for an engagement gift? They are always appreciated and can easily be made. Purchase a quantity of satin ribbon two inches in width. The shops offer many bargains in ribbons at this season. Cut the sachets in squares, pad them with cotton and sprinkle with sachet powder. Then whipstitch the edges together.

Stack a dozen of these together and tie with baby ribbon. On top place a flat bow ornamented with tiny rosebuds made from ribbon. An eighth of a yard of half-inch ribbon is required for each rose and they are formed by swirling the ribbon round and round a center. Foliage may be made from green silk to accompany these roses if desired.

This is a charming gift for the graduate. So prepare for June, which is not far distant.

AFTERNOON GOWN



An afternoon gown of printed silk over lace and embroidery, set off with a belt and sash of black satin ribbon.

Crude Colors for Blondes.

Crude, brilliant colors are seen on the hats as on the dresses, and one should be very young and of a blonde complexion to stand the combination of certain clashing colors. The trimmings are still very high.

FATIGUE A FOE TO BEAUTY

Woman Who Would Retain Charm Should Avoid Allowing Herself to Be Victim of Overwork.

Over-fatigue is a foe to beauty. Even if there were no lasting effects from it, which there are, a wearied look in a woman's face adds nothing to her charm. Rather, it is as the appearance of a faded flower compared with that of a fresh one. The muscles and muscular tissues become gradually weak and show themselves with particular perversity in ugly rings and bags about the eyes, in a lengthening of the lines between the nose and the mouth, and a general sagging.

Fatigue, too, has a direct effect upon the stomach muscles, causing them to sag also, and become unable to work properly, and this, in turn, reflects upon the complexion, rendering it sallow and eventually blotched. So, I say, avoid fatigue.

Rest whenever you can. Whatever the routine of your day may be, it is possible for you to snatch a moment, or at least, a second or two, here and there, of complete relaxation. Take a long breath and relax, then go on at attention if necessary, but it is rarely, very rarely, necessary, and there is a point to be made much of. Resist tension.

Bathe the tired face in cold water. It stimulates circulation, and brings relief, at least to one's feelings, even if its effect does not go very far beneath the surface. Hot water followed by a cold dash is also refreshing and especially is to be recommended to the woman of nervous temperament. A few drops of camphor in ice water makes an excellent lotion for the rejuvenation of the tired face muscles, but it should be followed by the application of a good face cream. Remove the cream with a dry, soft cloth and behold, you feel like a new woman.

Of Black Charmeuse.

The feature of the skirt lifted by means of a few plaits is as universal now as the train. On a lovely afternoon dress of black charmeuse the skirt was thus lifted beneath three very large jet buttons, and the fullness was looped round towards the back in graceful folds. The corsage of this gown had a very elegant sailor collar of fine lace and revers of the same in front, making a charming little heart-shaped opening, which just revealed the collar and gimples of fine net. A flat waistband of the same silk with long fringed ends covered the union of skirt and corsage. The sleeves were long, and set well below the turn of the shoulder with a piped seam.

Novel Trimming.

A novel trimming is little padded flowers, which are cut out of velvet broche ribbon with a sharp pair of scissors, and are applied to the straw of the hat, a small mound of cotton beneath bringing the flower into relief. In the case of a hat of black pedal straw, the round crown was covered all over with decoupe and padded rosebuds in velvet broche.

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Letters from Prominent Physicians addressed to Chas. H. Fletcher.

Dr. Albert W. Kahl, of Buffalo, N. Y., says: "I have used Castoria in my practice for the past 26 years. I regard it as an excellent medicine for children."

Dr. Gustave A. Eisengraeber, of St. Paul, Minn., says: "I have used your Castoria repeatedly in my practice with good results, and can recommend it as an excellent, mild and harmless remedy for children."

Dr. E. J. Dennis, of St. Louis, Mo., says: "I have used and prescribed your Castoria in my sanitarium and outside practice for a number of years and find it to be an excellent remedy for children."

Dr. S. A. Buchanan, of Philadelphia, Pa., says: "I have used your Castoria in the case of my own baby and find it pleasant to take, and have obtained excellent results from its use."

Dr. J. E. Simpson, of Chicago, Ill., says: "I have used your Castoria in cases of colic in children and have found it the best medicine of its kind on the market."

Dr. R. E. Eskildson, of Omaha, Neb., says: "I find your Castoria to be a standard family remedy. It is the best thing for infants and children I have ever known and I recommend it."

Dr. L. R. Robinson, of Kansas City, Mo., says: "Your Castoria certainly has merit. Is not its age, its continued use by mothers through all these years, and the many attempts to imitate it, sufficient recommendation? What can a physician add? Leave it to the mothers."

Dr. Edwin F. Pardee, of New York City, says: "For several years I have recommended your Castoria and shall always continue to do so, as it has invariably produced beneficial results."

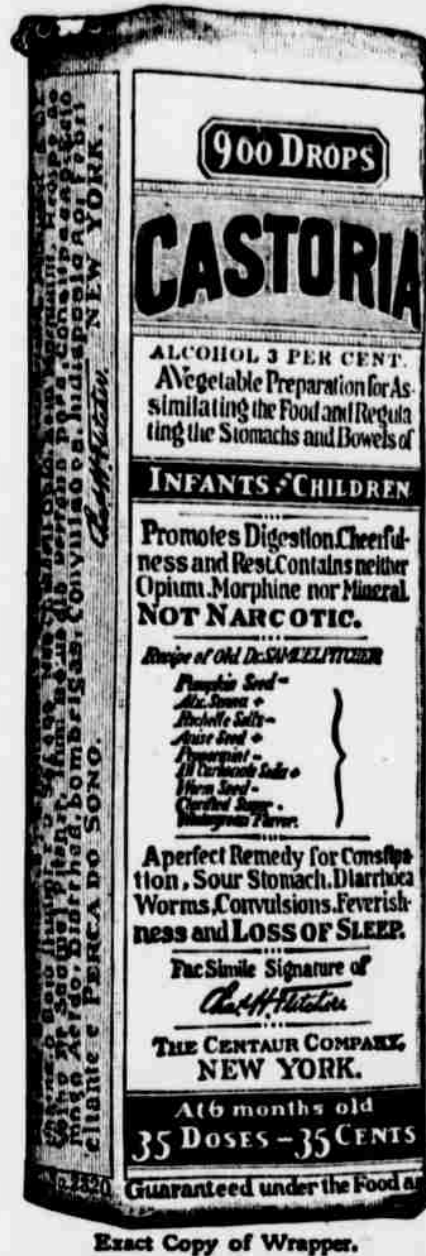
Dr. N. B. Sizer, of Brooklyn, N. Y., says: "I object to what are called patent medicines, where maker alone knows what ingredients are put in them, but I know the formula of your Castoria and advise its use."

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Somehow the conversation drifted round to the subject of dreams, from dreams to nightmares, from nightmares to somnambulism.

"A rotten habit, walking in one's sleep!" remarked Mr. Brown, the village humorist. "Do any of your fellows suffer from it?"

Young Smithson, who had always had a horrid but unfounded fear that he was delicate, rose to the occasion immediately.

"Yes, I do," he remarked, "and have done so for years. Do you know any remedy?"

"Do I know any remedy? I should jolly well think I do!" replied the humorist. "Why, I'll give you the prescription now, and you can take it round to an ironmonger."

"An ironmonger?"

Young Smithson thought that his ears must be playing tricks with him.

"Yes, an ironmonger," said Brown. "Then he wrote out the following prescription: 'One box of tacks. Dose: Two tablespoonfuls to be scattered about the room at bedtime.'"

Easy.

"I see you have a new cook," said Mrs. Keen, as she smiled at the hostess across the table.

"Yes," replied the hostess. "How did you know?"

"I've been studying the thumb prints on the plates," replied Mrs. Keen.

There is nothing more pitiful than a life spent in thinking nothing but self.—Farrar.

Work might be more to our liking if we didn't have to do it.

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