

Business Directory

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson for September 30

Golden Text.—Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.—Psa. 90:1

The Lesson as a Whole
In Psalm 105, verses 23 to 26, we read, "Israel also came into Egypt; and Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham. And he increased his people greatly, and made them stronger than their enemies. He turned their hearts to hate his people, to deal subtilly with his servants. He sent Moses his servant, and Aaron whom he had chosen." In these words, God, by His Holy Spirit, has summarized for us Israel's experiences in Egypt, and given us to see why they were permitted. He caused the family of Jacob to go down to that land, during the years of famine, to preserve them alive and to hold them together as one people. There, under favorable circumstances, they multiplied greatly, and if there had been no change in conditions they might eventually have held the controlling power in that country. But God had other plans for them. He had given the land of Canaan to Abraham and his seed by solemn covenant (Gen. 17:8). In order, therefore, to prepare Israel to remove from Egypt to the land of promise, He permitted persecution and affliction to be visited upon them. The Psalmist declares that it was He who caused the Egyptians to hate His people. That is, it was all in His permissive will. The hard bondage into which they were pressed made them long for deliverance and cry to God for help. In due time, He sent His servants, Moses and Aaron, to announce the day of their redemption from slavery had drawn nigh.

When Jacob and his household came down to Goshen upon Joseph's invitation, they found a cordial welcome and, as long as Joseph lived and for some years thereafter they enjoyed the best of the land. In these kindly circumstances they were prepared to take a place among the great nations of the world. They entered Egypt, as a family of about seventy souls. Before they left it they had become a nation of many hundreds of thousands.

Verse by Verse
Gen. 47:1—"My father and my

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brethren are come and are in the land of Goshen." Joseph gave this information to Pharaoh, hoping that he would grant permission for his family to remain in the fertile part of the land to which they had come and where they were awaiting further developments.

Verse 2—"He took some of his brethren and presented them unto Pharaoh." Joseph did nothing arbitrarily in connection with settling his relatives, but by bringing five of them into the presence of the king, he gave Pharaoh the opportunity to judge for himself as to what their fate should be.

Verse 3—"Pharaoh said... What is your occupation? And they said,

"Thy servants are shepherds." Already Joseph had instructed them to be particular as to this, because "every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians." They were held in low esteem and viewed with contempt by the Egyptians. Realizing this, Joseph wished to have his brethren settled in a part of the land which had good pasture for their flocks, and where they would not be in too close contact with the native population (chap. 46:34).

Verse 4—"Now therefore, we pray thee, let thy servants dwell in the land of Goshen." They took the place of suppliants, making no peremptory demands, but, as became immigrants, they asked for favorable consideration while showing all due respect for constituted authority.

Verse 5—"Pharaoh spake unto Joseph." It was right and seemly that he should deal, not directly with the newcomers, but with his faithful premier, whose relatives they were.

Verse 6—"The land of Egypt is before thee." With remarkable magnanimity and full understanding of conditions, Pharaoh authorized Joseph to accede to his brethren's request and settle them in Goshen. He even asked him to select from among them "men of activity" who might take over the care of his own flocks and herds. Thus everything was arranged for the comfort and ease of mind of the family of Jacob.

Verse 7—"Joseph brought in Jacob his father... and Jacob blessed Pharaoh." It was an affecting scene as the venerable patriarch was presented to the mighty Egyptian ruler. Without any show of authority or unseemly pretentiousness, but in full realization that he was the heir of the Abrahamic covenant, Jacob pronounced a blessing upon Pharaoh. We are told that "the less is blessed of the better" (Heb. 7:7). Pharaoh may not have realized it, but that humble pilgrim, that desert sheik, as he might have thought, was one of God's princes, as his new name, Israel, means. It was fully in keeping with this that he should invoke the divine blessing upon the king who had received him and all his family so graciously.

Verse 8—"Pharaoh said unto Jacob, How old art thou?" It was no idle curiosity that prompted the question. But old age was venerated in Egypt and Pharaoh recognized in Jacob one over whom God had manifested His care during an unusually long life.

Verse 9—"The days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years." There was a sublimity in this answer that Pharaoh may have missed, but which we today may readily comprehend. In spite of many failures, Jacob was but a pilgrim in this scene and he maintained that pilgrim character to the end. Nevertheless, he owned how far short he had come of all that God would have had him be as he added, "Few, and evil have the days of the years of my life been."

He had known a long life for self; but a short life for God. Humbly he acknowledged this as he stood before the king that day.

Verse 10—"Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from before Pharaoh." Again invoking a blessing upon the mighty ruler of Egypt, the patriarch withdrew. He was never more truly Israel, a prince with God, than during this brief interview.

Verse 11—"Joseph placed his father and his brethren... as Pharaoh had commanded." Acting under royal authority, Joseph thus made provision to sustain and nurture his father and all his brethren and their families. In this way, the Word of God was fulfilled which He had spoken to Abraham long before (Gen. 15:13, 14).

Verse 12—"Joseph nourished his father, and his brethren, and all his father's household, with bread, according to their families." Bearing no ill will toward those brothers who had behaved so unkindly toward him when he was but a lad, Joseph now became the preserver and savior of them all. In this we may see a striking type of Christ Himself in His love for Israel, who, though they once rejected Him, shall be saved as a nation when He comes the second time.

The Heart of the Lesson

God works according to His own wondrous plan, and makes even men's blunders and willfulness to serve His purpose. He makes the very wrath of man to praise Him and restrains ought that would seem to defeat His counsels (Psa. 76:10). This is exemplified in the story of Joseph and his brethren. The ill that envious brothers did was overruled by God for the preservation of the entire family and the protection of Israel, while they were growing out of mere tribal order into a nation strong and mighty. How good to be identified by grace with One whose infinite wisdom sees the end from the beginning and whose guiding hand controls all the affairs of men and nation!

Baseball players this summer who had uniforms supplied for the local team are asked to turn them in immediately to L. E. O'Neill.

AUCTION SALE FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS

The undersigned has received instructions to sell by public auction at

South Half Lots 34-5, Con. 8, Whithby
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TUESDAY, OCT. 2

1945, the following property belonging to

RODD R. APPLEBY

Cattle

Holstein Cow, in full flow, 6 yrs.

Holstein Cow, due Nov. 2, 4 yrs.

Holstein Cow, in full flow, 7 yrs.

Holstein Cow, due Dec. 1, 7 yrs.

Holstein Cow, bred in June, 6 yrs.

Holstein Cow, due Nov. 8, 4 yrs.

Holstein Cow, due Dec., 3½ yrs.

Holstein Cow, in full flow, 4 yrs.

Holstein Heifer, calved in Aug.

Holstein Heifer, calved Sept. 9

Holstein Heifer, bred Aug. 1

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5 Holstein Heifers, yearlings

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Fanning Mill and Bagger

Single Plow 2 Scufflers

Disc Harrows, in throw

2 Hay Forks Cutting Box

Pile Logs, suitable for firewood

Set Duck Tooth Harrows

Numerous other articles

Reason for sale, barn destroyed by

wind.

Sale at 1 o'clock Terms, Cash

John Scott, Clerk

A. S. Farmer, Auctioneer

(Too late last week)

Mr. and Mrs. Boake. Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Brandon and the Dike family attended Lindsay Fair last week.

Mrs. E. Birdsell is picking apples in the Aurora Orchards.

We are glad to see Rev. McMath back after his vacation and his illness.

Mr. S. Gibney and Miss Helen Reid visited the peach district recently.

Harry Brandon, our local thresher, had the misfortune to have his tractor burned on Monday night. Having completed threshing for Walter Johnston, Mr. Brandon and his helper, Fred Hood, were moving to a neighbour's when the tractor took fire some distance out Johnston's lane and was completely destroyed. Mr. Brandon was not covered by insurance.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hall were guests with Mr. and Mrs. McClure.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hope were visitors at Grimsby.

Mr. Randall Chapman was our representative in Toronto on the new bus line from Mt. Albert to Toronto. A trial trip was made by the Hollinger Bus Company. There were twenty in all who took the trip and were royally entertained for the day. The regular bus will be operating on Oct. 1st with two trips each-way a day.

Mr. Chas. Brandon who has purchased a service station in Uxbridge has announced his new bus

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