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MPROVED UNIFORM NTEERNAYOMAL SundaySchool 'Lesson "
(By REV. B. B. HITZWATER, D. D,
Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Teacher of English Bible in the Moody
Bible Institute of Chicage.) Copyright, 1923, Western Newspaper Union.

LESSON FOR APRIL 15

## JOSEPH, THE PRESERVER OF HIS

 PEOPLELESSON TEXT-Genesis 45:3-15.
LESSON TEXT-Genesis 45:3-15.
GOLDEN TEXT-Honor thy father
and thy mother, that thy days may be and thy mother, that thy days may be
long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.-Exodus $20: 12$.
REFERENCE MATERIAL - Joshua 24:32; Psalm 105:16-22; Hebrews 11:21-
${ }^{22}$ PRIMARY TOPIC-Joseph Forgiving Brothers.
JUNIOR TOPIC-Joseph, the ForgivIng Brother. IC-Joseph as Som and Brother. IC-The Inspiring mxample of Joseph.
While the climax of the story is reached in Joseph's revelation to his brethren yet his life should be briefly sketched in order to get the full force of this climax.
I. Loved by His Father; Hated by His Brethren (Genesis 3i). The be trayal of the father's partiality increased his brothers' hatred for him. His dreams were prophecies of Gud's dealing with them.
II. Sold Into Slavery (Genesis 37). So intensely did they hate him that they proposed to kill him. This murderous purpose was turned aside by the proposition to sell him into slavery. They sold him to merchantmen who were going down into Egypt and in turn they sold him as a slave.
III. Cast Into Prison (Genesis 39). ly accusell and sent to prison. Joseph's character had so impressed Potiphar that he doubted his wife's charges against him. If he had believed her he would have put this Hebrew slave to death.
IV. Made Prime Minister (Genesis 41). Though falsely accused and imprisoned the hand of the Lord was so upon him that he was soon exalted to the throne bealing with
(Genesis Dealing With His Brethren (Genesis 41-44). He dealt harshly with them, desiring to test their characters before revealing himself to them.
VI. Joseph Reveals Himself to His Brethren (Genesis 45:1-15).
1-2) Alone With His Brothers (vv. 1-2). When his pent-up emotions could no longer be restrained he ordered all the men to withdraw. Here alone with his brethren he made himself known to them. There are some emo tions too sacred to disclose in the presence of unsympathetic men.
2. Conscience Smitten Brothers ( $\nabla$.
3). When Joseph disclosed his identity they stood condemned in his presence. They were smitten with a guilty enscience. A score of years before they had put him into a pit to die, but later lifted him out and sold him into slavery. Now they are before him with reversed positions. They are at his mercy. Some day every man shall face his sins unless they be canceled in the blood of Jesus.
3. Divine Providence Interpreted (vv. 4-8). (1) His gracious invitation (v. 4). "Come near, I am your brother." How like the Savior. He is saying unto sinners who have wronged him, "Come near, I am your brother." (2) "Be not grieved" (v. 5). He sought by these words to allay the distress in which his brothers were. Jesus is saying the same kind words to repentant slnners today. (3) "God sent me to preserve life" (vv. 5-8), God turned
the wicked thoughts of these brethren to good. God is tolay making the wrath of men to praise him. All that poses. The but furthers God's pur poses. The very wicked thoughts of these brothers in attempting to de stroy Joseph were turned to the pres ervation of their lives.
4. Joseph's Message
4. Joseph's Message to His Father Lord of Egypt" (v, 9) hath made me hasten to his father with the assu ance that God had elevated him place of lordship in Egypt. (2) Urgen Invitation (vv. 9-10). His Urgen is invited to come, bringing his children, grandchildren and fis This must have been a great and joy ful surprise to Jacob when famine and death were facing him. (3) Promise of nourishment during famine ( v , 11) Jospeh did not allow his prosperity to make him selfish. His character stood the test of prosperity. (4) Tell father of all my glory in Egypt (v. 13). This was not boasting but an effort to con vince his father of his ability to care for him.
5. Joseph's Forgiving Love (vv. 14 15). Joseph weeping upon the neck of his brethren is a most touching scene. There was entire forgiveness. there was full reconciliation. This transcendant scene causes Josenh's character to shine forth in Its true glory.

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The striking activity in village and rural lands this spring includes

## Edgemoore Heights

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A recent sale to W. S. Hallowell, on the road leading out from Southern Pines to the Banes and Young farms, takes a tract of forty acres, which will be improved by buildings, and a place for the owners' horses. This adds another center of development to the growing neighborhood out that way, and other transactions are in view in that quarter.

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