

# Religious.

## Sunday School Lesson for October 20.

### Joseph Exalted.

Gen. xl: 38-49.

BY  
J. E. GILBERT, D.D.  
Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

**CONNECTION.**—Pharaoh's butler, of whose dream we studied last week, was restored to his office, but he forgot Joseph who had interpreted the dream, and who therefore remained in prison. Two whole years passed, during which the young Hebrew performed his little round of duties. But God did not forget him. Then Pharaoh, in a dream, saw seven fat, strong, healthy sheep, and seven thin, gaunt, weak sheep, which sought in vain to the water, mean to his meaning. It was then that the butler recalled the kindness and service of Joseph, and mentioned him with special commendation to the king; Joseph was called into the presence of Pharaoh, and the dream explained. The king caused a golden chain to be put around the neck of the young representative, and it was decided that during the good year officers should be engaged to gather up the surplus grain in storehouses, to be preserved for the days of want. The members of the court were entirely satisfied with this explanation.

**RECOGNITION.**—(Verses 28 and 29). It is not difficult to find men for the bountiful stations of life where little ability is required. Indeed, many strive for positions that may be easily filled.

But when some delicate task is to be undertaken, demands more talents, the selection of the person to be chosen is a difficult one. When I supervised this industrial meeting in Elizabethtown so as to provide for the people? That question caused some discussion, and at length Joseph was recognized as the proper person for the position. The text shows that Pharaoh reached this conclusion after consulting with his advisers, and it is evident that the end may be more important than the means.

“I have found great pleasure in his fellowship. His fidelity, his freedom from pretension, the breadth and mildness of his character, and his frankness have always given me the delusions of the church.

He will be able to leave it to me to pass on to the church every detail of his work.

It is pleasant to note that when they departed from Scranton Dr. and Mrs. Robinson are to go to the beautiful New York subway, where they will be near their son and his family.

At the meeting of the presbytery of Lackawanna held recently in Honesdale the presbytery bade Dr. Robinson farewell on his offering the reason for his resignation of his charge and asking for a dissolution of the pastoral relation between him and the Second church.

Charles H. Welles, esq., of Scranton, elder of the Second Presbyterian church, presented and read the resolution passed by the church, which with the bestowal of an annuity for Dr. and Mrs. Robinson each of \$300 for life, Dr. and Mrs. Welles said:

The resolutions must be very formal and forcible to express the thanks of the church for bearing fourteen years of association with Dr. Robinson, in which time the church has grown from a small congregation to a congregation of 800, many having gone in and out before him. We have all felt the Christlike love of Dr. Robinson, and have been deeply interested in his work with us. I have been associated with him for fifteen years, and during all that time he has had the closest sympathy of the whole congregation. This congregation is made up of all classes of people, the high and the low, and he has been the pastor of them all. He goes from us, and that loss will be felt by all. Some of us are poor, but full of love and of Christlike character as he concerns us all, and we need your prayers in considering this matter. Dr. Robinson says he has never been a well man for the fourteen years he has been here, in full vigor of manhood he would be qualified for such a work as this. This is not his funeral. It will be a long time before he goes to heaven and meets Dr. Stewart there, and I hope Dr. Stewart and we may continue long with us members of our presbytery. He is my nearest neighbor.

Rev. James McLeod, D. D., Scranton, is thankful for these resolutions from the Second church, expressing his feelings in this way: “I thank God they have had a pastor so long of whom they can speak so kindly. They have shown their love, not only in passing these resolutions, but in giving the right judge, shall give me at that day, I am sure he will be able to say this. And I hope we may all be recognized in our work as good faithful servants, the good works of which we have done under his guidance.”

“I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith believeth that I am up to the rigors of a righteous life, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day.”

The basis of the choice was the young man’s wisdom, which exceeded that of other men, and his superiority in this regard was plainly referred to one circumstance—“The spirit of God was in him” (Num. xxvi. 3). A brother monarch thus recognized what is the hidden meaning of all Scripture that divides the nations into truly great (Job xxviii.).

**PROMOTION.**—(Verses 40 and 41). There is no advantage in an absolute monarchy—unless it is in the royal household, a remarkable occurrence when it is remembered that the Egyptian for-  
eign policy was marked by the yellow of the yellow robe, and the king was surrounded by gold. This formation was therefore effected by two processes. A new name was given which signified “the revealer of secrets,” an announcement of his chief character as the ground for his promotion. That new name served the same end and circumscribed the power which he incom-  
plicates with that of the secret. He also received an Egyptian wife, given to him by Pharaoh, the daughter of Potipherah, priest of On. The priest rank was esteemed the highest; it was the caste to which the king himself belonged. The introduction of Joseph into these relations was doubly proper. By his natural gift and his skill as interpreter of dreams, he was soon in great favor. He was supposed to have intercourse with the supervisor, and by his new office he was to be related to the highest dignitaries.

**MARRIAGE.**—(Verse 45). This wonderful elevation of Joseph in manly measure into entrance into the royal household, a remarkable occurrence when it is remembered that the Egyptian for-  
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**HONOR.**—(Verses 42 and 43). Every place of responsibility has its importance, the position of the dignity and the instruments of instruction

will be used. The meeting will be in the Young Men’s Christian association room at 3:45 o’clock, and every man will be welcome.

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The Methodist Ministers’ association of Scranton and vicinity will meet at the Elm Park church on Monday morning, October 21, at 10:30. A paper will be presented by the Rev. J. R. Austin; subject, “Facts and Feeling.”

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Rev. David Spencer, D. D., will present a paper before the Baptist Ministerial Conference next Monday morning in the Penn avenue Baptist church on “The Holy Spirit’s Revelation to the Apostles.”

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To the readers of the “Leaves of Healing” and “Friends of Zion.” A meeting of the Friends will be held in Guernsey building, Oct. 21 and 25. Further notice will be given in this paper.

**Tomorrow’s Services**

**Methodist Episcopal.**

Eliza M. C. Grimes—Early morning service of prayer and praise at 6:30; preaching by pastor, Dr. C. M. Griffin at 10:30; class meeting at 11:30; Sunday school at 12:30; services in social room Sunday school at 2 p. m.; assistant pastor, E. B. Singer has charge; Senior League at 6:30, led by H. H. Bushnell, topic, “A Bad Bargain”; At 7:30 the pastor will give the sermon, “To-day for me because I feel my inability to do the work I have to do as I would like to do.” I never shall forget this incident; I feel that I am alone but others tell me in this incident to the work. And I hope the brothers will pray for me and we will not forget Dr. Robinson in our hearts.

Dr. Robinson is a man of great depth of character. And yet this is thought to me this morning, that Dr. Robinson has fulfilled his mission so admirably that his life and work will live on in the hearts of those who knew him well and will have the memory of this presbytery, as well as of our church, for many years to come.

While I remembered some of them afterwards I always had a very clear and vivid picture of Dr. Robinson in my own mind—not only of his personality but of what he said. When I heard later on, some weeks after that, in fact that the Second Presbyterian church of Scranton, given over to Dr. Robinson, I had no trouble to recognize him, nor had he been in to that my mind as I remembered him in my study days.

It was not more than one day on his coming here until we were brothers. We have been brothers ever since day. We are brothers together and have a great many of the pictures from that part of New York state. And as we all know, there are certain men that make stronger impressions than others, and I remember at a certain Dr. Robinson was present and there were other religious men and the church and the people will have the memory of this presbytery, as well as of our church, for many years to come.

Others spoke as follows:

Rev. F. Van King, of Kingston, Pa.—While I say I use to have the privilege of seeing and hearing a great many of the pictures from that part of New York state. And as we all know, there are certain men that make stronger impressions than others, and I remember at a certain Dr. Robinson was present and there were other religious men and the church and the people will have the memory of this presbytery, as well as of our church, for many years to come.

Rev. S. C. Logan, D. D.—My relations with Dr. Robinson, his church and his work have been so close and intimate that I should say something more than what I have said of his church and the pastor of the First church, and especially with the pastor of the church he has been the most pleasant and lovable. What is the case it was necessary to observe in his up-bringing, these churches you do not know about the pastor, and we will do not forget Dr. Robinson in our hearts.

Thomas P. Wells, esq.—I would not speak today, excepting for the fact that all that has been said has been by his fellow ministers, and I as a layman of the city of Scranton, want to hear testimony what his work in the church has been. And I am sure that all the people who have been associated with him, and especially with the pastor of the church he has been the most pleasant and lovable. What is the case it was necessary to observe in his up-bringing, these churches you do not know about the pastor, and we will do not forget Dr. Robinson in our hearts.

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The meeting for men at the Railroad Young Men’s Christian association on Sunday afternoon at 3:45 o’clock will be fully up to the present high standard.

D. T. Yost, city agent of the Lehigh Valley, will give a gospel talk. The First Evangelical League represent the church in sending living invitation to all its elderly members and friends. Rev. George A. Cope.

First German Methodist Episcopal church, Adams Avenue and Vine street—B. Bobbin, pastor.

Praying services, 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Sunday school at noon and at 2 o’clock.

W. W. Laird, pastor, Sunday school at 10:30 a. m.; Beginning tomorrow except Saturday evening.

The First Baptist church will unite with the First Evangelical church at 7:30 p. m. keeping the Sabbath Day Holy.

A welcome to all our friends.

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Baptist.

Penn Avenue Baptist church—Preaching, morning, 10:30 a. m., by the pastor, Rev. Robert F. V. Pierce, D. D., services, Morning, 10:30 a. m.; Sunday school at 10:30 a. m.; Sabbath school at 12:30 p. m.; Prayer meeting, 6:30 p. m.; Evening service, 7 p. m.

Second Presbyterian church—Preaching, 10:30 a. m.; by W. W. Laird of the Railroad Y. M. C. A.; Sunday school at 3 p. m.; Junior Christian Endeavor, 4:30 p. m.; Senior Christian Endeavor, 6:30 p. m.; Prayer meeting, 7:30 Thursday evening.

Adam’s Avenue Baptist church—Rev. Robert F. V. Pierce, D. D., services, Morning, 10:30 a. m.; Sunday school at 10:30 a. m.; Sabbath school at 12:30 p. m.; Prayer meeting, 6:30 p. m.

First Baptist church—South Main Avenue—Rev. S. V. Mathews, pastor, Sabbath school services, morning, 10 a. m.; Rev. J. H. Harris, D. D., pastor, Bucknell University, will preach the morning sermon. A young person will take his place in the pulpit.

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