

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Genesis 37:1-24

EXTRA READING: Apostle's Creed & Canons, III/IV, art 2 & rej. 1

SINGING: 397:1, 2, 3, 5 – 163:1-3 – 304:1, 2, 6, 7 – 450:1-2

OPENING QUESTION TO PONDER ..

- What spiritual condition are you in?
 - Acknowledge God's existence without knowing Him?

 - Fashioned a god that fits your life-style?
- What alone will cure these two conditions?
 - Knowing God which brings a knowing of self, sin and salvation

- What is God's greatest greatness?

GOD'S GLORY OF LOVE REVEALED

I. In the sending of His Son II. In the readiness of His Son to be sent

I. GOD'S GLORY OF LOVE REVEALED IN THE SENDING OF HIS SON

A. The type in Jacob's sending of Joseph (12-14)

1. Jacob loved Joseph (vs. 3) and honored him

2. God the Father loved His Son and honored Him also

B. The glory is seen in Jacob's initiative to send Joseph (vs. 13)

1. Jacob knew his sons were in Sechem (Gen. 34:30)

2. This *earthly scene* carry us back to *before time began!*

a. setting of heaven is like the meaning of Hebron (Prov. 8:22, 30)

b. God the Father didn't ask or propose but commanded His Son

3. The glory is seen in *where* and *for whom* Joseph/Jesus had to go

a. the truth about Sechem & brethren is the truth about men

b. Did Israel/God know the extent of the evil?

4. Why did God send His beloved Son to earth? (John 3:17)

C. What do these glorious truths mean to you?

1. Has this truth ever dawned upon you mind so it humbled you?

II. GOD'S THOUGHTS OF LOVE REVEALED IN SON'S READINESS

A. The readiness of Joseph pictured the matchless glory of the Son of God

1. How much/little did Joseph know what was lying ahead?

2. How matchless is the disinterestedness of Son's love to go!

B. His readiness extended beyond His coming: *He was found seeking!*

1. Joseph failed to find at first but persevered to find them (15)

2. This gloriously pictures Jesus' glory in seeking sinners

3. The brothers/sinners were/are found in Dothan (Jer. 2:13)

CLOSING REFLECTIONS: *Do we realize that God is 'seeking among us?'*

A. John 4:23b: "...for Father seeketh such to worship Him."

1. Ponder this astounding revelation often till you are silenced!

a. shows us how big God is!

b. shows us how evil we are!

c. shows us salvation is not (first of all) about us!

B. Face your wickedness as mirrored in Joseph's brothers: How easily do you reject this graciously seeking God ?

C. Are you afraid to believe that such good tidings true for you?

THIS IS A FAITHFUL SAYING AND WORTHY OF ALL ACCEPTATION, THAT CHRIST JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS; OF WHOM I AM CHIEF. (1 TIM. 1:15)

FOR GOD SENT NOT HIS SON INTO THE WORLD TO CONDEMN THE WORLD; BUT THAT THE WORLD THROUGH HIM MIGHT BE SAVED. (JOHN 3:17)

YE KNOW NOT WHAT MANNER OF SPIRIT YE ARE OF. FOR THE SON OF MAN IS NOT COME TO DESTROY MEN'S LIVES, BUT TO SAVE THEM. (LUKE 9:55-56)