

Genesis 47

Verses 1- 6

Then Joseph went in and told Pharaoh, and said, “My father and my brothers and their flocks and their herds and all that they have, have come out of the land of Canaan; and behold, they are in the land of Goshen.”² And he took five men from among his brothers and presented them to Pharaoh.³ Then Pharaoh said to his brothers, “What is your occupation?” So they said to Pharaoh, “Your servants are shepherds, both we and our fathers.”⁴ They also said to Pharaoh, “We have come to reside in the land, for there is no pasture for your servants’ flocks, for the famine is severe in the land of Canaan. Now, therefore, please let your servants live in the land of Goshen.”⁵ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Your father and your brothers have come to you.⁶ The land of Egypt is at your disposal; settle your father and your brothers in the best of the land, let them live in the land of Goshen; and if you know any capable men among them, then put them in charge of my livestock.”

Your servants are shepherds, both we, and our fathers

The five brothers repeated what Joseph had instructed them to say, making it a certainty that the king would consent.

We pray, let your servants dwell in the land of Goshen

Despite the fact that Joseph had oversight over all of Egypt he did not settle his folks in Goshen without the formal consent of the king.

In the land of Goshen let them dwell: and if you know any able men among them, then make them rulers over my cattle

The king not only granted his permission for them to settle in Goshen but He wanted to place his own cattle under their supervision if they were capable men

This is how good government works.

Positions should be filled with men and woman that have the skills needed for the job

Verses 7-12

⁷ Then Joseph brought his father Jacob and presented him to Pharaoh; and Jacob blessed Pharaoh. ⁸ And Pharaoh said to Jacob, “How many years have you lived?” ⁹ So Jacob said to Pharaoh, “The years of my living abroad are 130; few and unpleasant have been the years of my life, nor have they attained the years that my fathers lived during the days of their living abroad.” ¹⁰ So Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from his presence. ¹¹ Now Joseph settled his father and his brothers and gave them property in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had ordered. ¹² Joseph also provided his father and his brothers and all his father’s household with food, according to the number of their little ones.

Few and unpleasant have been the years of my life

Joseph should have counseled his father before he talked with the king

Displaying a melancholy temperament before the king is not politically astute

But there is no doubt that he had a hard life in a number of ways

1. His bride, her sister, and father-in-law deceived him
2. Laban also cheated him by changing his wages 10 times;
3. The 20 years of harsh weather watching the sheep;
4. His wives were not happy;
5. The rape of Dinah;
6. The massacre of the people of Shechem by two of his sons;
7. Rachel died giving birth
8. Thinking his son Joseph was dead for 25 years
9. Reuben's incest with one of Jacob's wives;
10. The famine;
11. The imprisonment of Simeon;
12. Learning Benjamin would have to go to Egypt;

Nor have they attained the years that my fathers lived during the days of their living abroad

Abraham lived to the age of 175 and Isaac lived to be 180

Jacob is currently 130 and will live to be 147

See chart 4705

Ch	Person	Event	Age	Year
11	Terah	Terah dies	205	1921
23	Sarah	Sarah dies	127	1859
25	Abraham	Abraham dies	175	1821
25	Ishmael	Ismael dies	137	1773
35	Rachel	Dies giving birth	35	1739
35	Isaac	Isaac dies	180	1716
49	Jacob	Jacob dies	147	1689
50	Joseph	Joseph dies	110	1635

¹¹ **Now Joseph settled his father and his brothers and gave them property in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had ordered.**

Joseph deeded a portion of the land of Goshen to his father and brothers

Since Moses is writing about this from the future it becomes somewhat of a back to the future scenario

Moses wrote Genesis during the wilderness wanderings (1446 to 1406 BC)

So around 1400 BC, Moses is writing about the Hebrews, who were living in the land of Rameses around 1700bc, which won't be called the land of Rameses until the city is built around 1600bc

Hope you enjoyed the movie! ☺

Joseph also provided his father and his brothers and all his father's household with food, according to the number of their little ones.

The famine would continue for another 5 years

During that time period all of the Egyptians would have to sell their livestock, land, and themselves as slaves to buy food from the king

But it seems Israel was provided for by Joseph and was exempt from these conditions

Verse 13-19

¹³ Now there was no food in all the land, because the famine was very severe, so that the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished because of the famine. ¹⁴ And Joseph collected all the money that was found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan *in payment* for the grain which they bought, and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house. ¹⁵ When the money was all spent in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph saying, "Give us food, for why should we die in your presence? For *our* money is gone." ¹⁶ Then Joseph said, "Give up your livestock, and I will give you *food* for your livestock, since *your* money is gone." ¹⁷ So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and Joseph gave them food in exchange for the horses and the flocks and the herds and the donkeys; and he fed them with food in exchange for all their livestock that year. ¹⁸ But when that year ended, they came to him the next year and said to him, "We will not hide from my lord the fact that our money is all spent, and the livestock are my lord's. There is nothing left for my lord except our bodies and our lands. ¹⁹ Why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land for food, and we and our land will be slaves to Pharaoh. So give us seed, so that we may live and not die, and that the land may not be desolate."

¹⁴ And Joseph collected all the money that was found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan *in payment* for the grain which they bought, and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house

During these years of the famine the king of Egypt became extremely wealthy

It is interesting that only the lands of Egypt and Canaan are mentioned here

When this famine first started it was said to be world wide

So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and Joseph gave them food in exchange for the horses and the flocks and the herds and the donkeys; and he fed them with food in exchange for all their livestock that year.

The King already had all of the people's money, but during this year the King became the owner of the people's livestock

Buy us and our land for food, and we and our land will be slaves to Pharaoh

At this point the king owned everything in Egypt; the people's money, the animals, the land and the people.

So give us seed, so that we may live and not die, and that the land may not be desolate.”

This must have been the last year of the famine, since they were asking for seed to plant

The year was 1701 BC

Verses 20-26

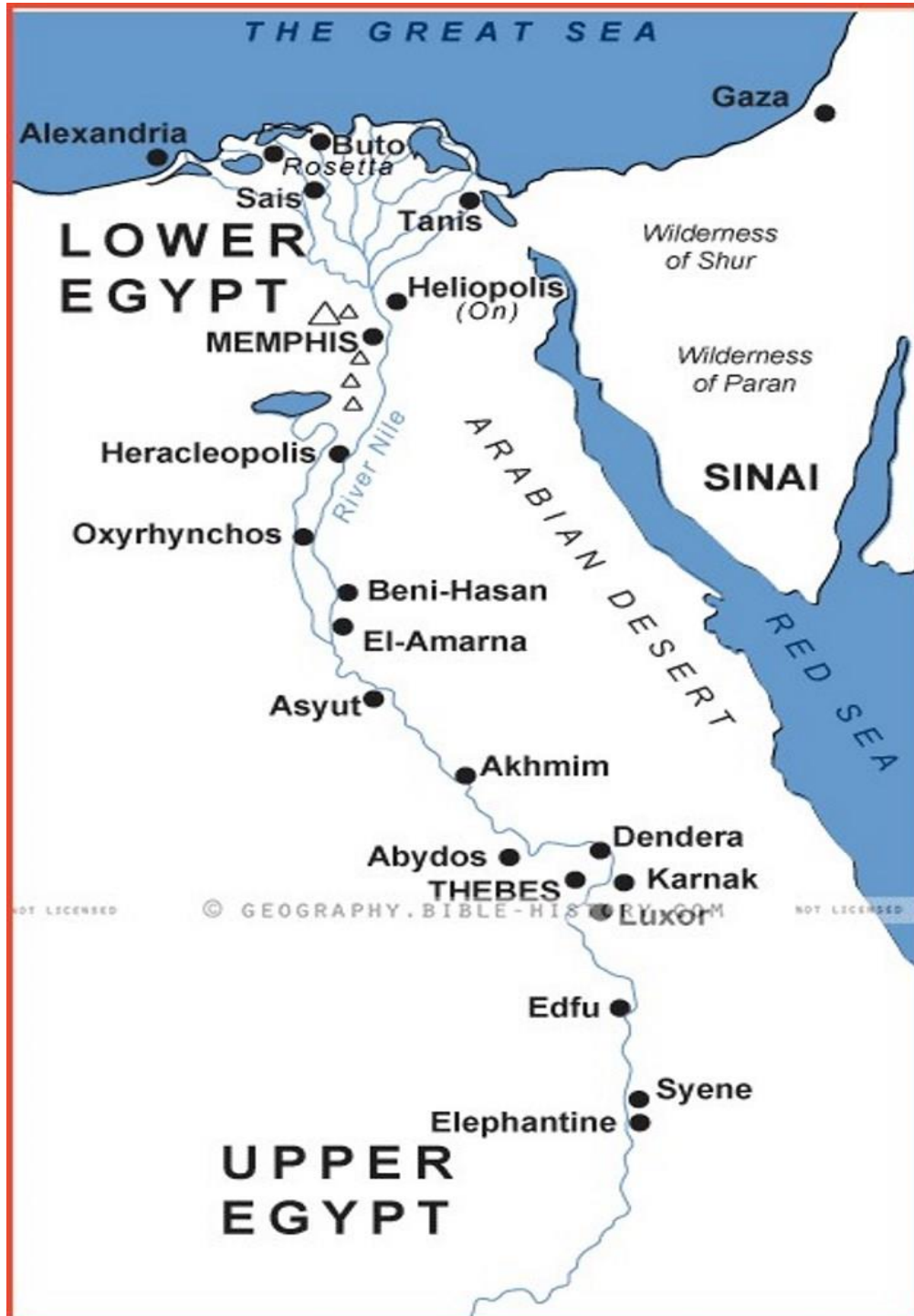
²⁰ **So Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh, for every Egyptian sold his field, because the famine was severe upon them. So the land became Pharaoh's.**

²¹ **As for the people, he relocated them to the cities from one end of Egypt's border to the other. ²² Only the land of the priests he did not buy, because the priests had an allotment from Pharaoh, and they lived off the allotment which Pharaoh gave them. Therefore, they did not sell their land. ²³ Then Joseph said to the people, “Behold, today I have purchased you and your land for Pharaoh; now, *here is* seed for you, and you may sow the land. ²⁴ At the harvest you shall give a fifth to Pharaoh, and four-fifths shall be your own for seed of the field and for your food, and for those of your households and as food for your little ones.”**

²⁵ **So they said, “You have saved our lives! Let us find favor in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's slaves.” ²⁶ Joseph made it a statute concerning the land of Egypt, *valid* to this day, that Pharaoh was to have the fifth; only the land of the priests did not become Pharaoh's.**

²¹ As for the people, he relocated them to the cities from one end of Egypt's border to the other.

See pic 4710



Since 96% of Egypt is desert, the cities were located along the Nile River

²² Only the land of the priests he did not buy, because the priests had an allotment from Pharaoh, and they lived off the allotment which Pharaoh gave them. Therefore, they did not sell their land.

The priests did not have to sell their land because they received an allotment of food from the king and that sustained them during the 7 years of famine

At the harvest you shall give a fifth to Pharaoh, and four-fifths shall be your own

The people became sharecroppers giving the king 20% of their crop

Verse 27-28

²⁷ Now Israel lived in the land of Egypt, in Goshen, and they acquired property in it and were fruitful and became very numerous. ²⁸ And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt for seventeen years; so the length of Jacob's life was 147 years.

²⁷ Now Israel lived in the land of Egypt, in Goshen, and they acquired property in it and were fruitful and became very numerous

When Jacob came to Egypt in 1706 BC, they were a group of about 200 people

By the time of the Exodus in 1446 BC, their number had reached over 2 million

With over 600,000 fighting men above the age of twenty

See Numbers 1:46

So they increased from about 200 people to 2 million plus in 260 years

Verses 29-31

²⁹ When the time for Israel to die drew near, he called his son Joseph and said to him, "Please, if I have found favor in your sight, place your hand under my thigh now and deal with me in kindness and faithfulness: please do not bury me in Egypt, ³⁰ but when I lie down with my fathers, you shall carry me out of Egypt and bury me in their burial place." And he said, "I will do as you have said." ³¹ And he said, "Swear to me." So he swore to him. Then Israel bowed *in worship* at the head of the bed.

Bury me not, in Egypt; but you shall bury me in their dwelling place

Jacob requested to be buried with Abraham and Isaac in the cave of Machpelah.

We covered this in chapter 23