

# Settled

## Genesis Chapter 47

Gen 47:1 **1) Jacob Meets Pharaoh** vs 1-10

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."

Gen 47:2 He took five men from among his brothers and presented them to Pharaoh.

Gen 47:3 Then Pharaoh said to his brothers, "What is your occupation?" So they said to Pharaoh, "Your servants are shepherds, both we and our fathers." .

- *Egyptian Caste System*
  - Pharaoh
  - Government Officials - Nobles, Priests
  - Soldiers
  - Scribes
  - Merchants
  - Artisans
  - Farmers
  - Slaves & Servants (Shepherds)
- *Genesis 45:34 "Every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians"*
- *While Joseph was Grand Visier, he could not grant a large portion of land to foreigners without Pharaoh's approval. This entire process had to be in Egypt's and Pharaoh's best interest.*
- *Shepherds - Pharaoh had livestock*
- *Sojourn - not permanent in Egypt*
- *Goshen - Away from majority of population*

Gen 47:4 They said to Pharaoh, "We have come to sojourn 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."

- *Sojourn mean to Temporarily Dwell, to be a Stranger, to Seek Hospitality. The intention is not to stay permanently but to be moving on after a time.*
- *1 Chronicles 29:15 David is in the process of turning the throne over to Solomon. He has instructed the people and is now praising God. In the prayer of praise he acknowledges our sojourn. He understands that we are simply here, in this life, designed for a short stay but that our real home is in heaven eternally. "For we [are] strangers before thee, and sojourners, as [were] all our fathers: our days on the earth [are] as a shadow, and [there is] none abiding."*
- *2 Peter 2:11 tells us that we are to walk in this world with the idea that we are of a different kingdom and that while in this world of sin/lusts we are sojourners.*
- *Eph 2:19 tells us that before the throne of God we are no longer sojourners but we are to abide there.*
- *Hebrews 11:13 "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of [them], and embraced [them], and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that [country] from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better [country], that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city."*

Gen 47:5 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Your father and your brothers have come to you.

Gen 47:6 "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."

- Gen 47:7 Then Joseph brought his father Jacob and presented him to Pharaoh; and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.
- Gen 47:8 Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How many years have you lived?"
- Gen 47:9 So Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The years of my sojourning are one hundred and thirty; 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 sojourning."
- Gen 47:10 And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from his presence.
- *Jacob blesses Pharaoh at his coming in and his going out (vs 7 & 10) Jacob is the greater man. Gen 14:19 Melchizedek blessed Abraham, demonstrating his authority Heb 7:7 "without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better"*
  - *Jacob says his sojourning is 130 years. (His home is not in this life.)*
  - *Jacob says the years of his life have been few and unpleasant (comparison to how he should have lived. He lived in the flesh mostly.) KJV says "the days of the years" implying the length or better put "I wear every day, every minute of each year of the 130 that I have lived."*
  - *KJV also says "few and evil are the days". It hasn't been a fun journey for Jacob. Yet in looking back it has gone by quickly. It is an odd thing. In the middle of the difficulty it seems to endure. But after the days of trouble have passed it seems that time moves pretty rapidly.*
  - *Jacob tells Pharaoh that his fathers live long It is interesting that Jacob is bragging on his fathers. He is a changed man. Before he would have been out to testify of his accomplishment.*
- Gen 47:11 **2) Famine is Severe** vs 11-27
- So Joseph settled his father and his brothers and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had ordered.
- Gen 47:12 Joseph provided his father and his brothers and all his father's household with food, according to their little ones.
- Gen 47:13 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.
- Gen 47:14 Joseph gathered all the money that was found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan for the grain which they bought, and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house. .
- *Not coinage but precious metals or stones*
- Gen 47:15 When the money was all spent in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, "Give us food, for why should we die in your presence? For {our} money is gone."
- Gen 47:16 Then Joseph said, "Give up your livestock, and I will give you {food} for your livestock, since {your} money is gone."
- Gen 47:17 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.
- *Precious metals are gone so then the livestock is traded.*
- Gen 47:18 When that year was ended, they came to him the next year and said to him, "We will not hide from my lord that our money is all spent, and the cattle are my lord's. There is nothing left for my lord except our bodies and our lands.
- Gen 47:19 "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, that we may live and not die, and that the land may not be desolate."

- Gen 47:20 So Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh, for every Egyptian sold his field, because the famine was severe upon them. Thus the land became Pharaoh's.
- *After livestock is sold the people only have left their land and themselves. The famine is so severe that the people sell their land to Pharaoh. Not only land but themselves for they know that it is better to be a fed slave to Pharaoh than to die from starvation with no money, no cattle, and no land.*
  - *Interesting archeological support. The histories in the hieroglyphs tell of private land ownership until the 18<sup>th</sup> dynasty. Then at that time in history, all lands were documented to be owned by Pharaoh.*
- Gen 47:21 As for the people, he removed them to the cities from one end of Egypt's border to the other.
- Gen 47:22 Only the land of the priests he did not buy, for 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 Egyptian priests were taken care of by Pharaoh. Notice how scripture stresses that it is from Pharaoh.*
- Gen 47:23 Then Joseph said to the people, "Behold, I have today bought you and your land for Pharaoh; now, {here} is seed for you, and you may sow the land.
- *This may be in the 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> year and the famine is going to end. Joseph governs the people by letting them farm the land that is now Pharaoh's. The people will be able to keep 4/5s of the produce yielded from the land but 1/5 is Pharaoh's. The people became "Sharecroppers"*
- Gen 47:24 "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."
- Gen 47:25 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." .
- *What is given up for this salvation?*
  - *Of all the things the people had to give up, - money, - possessions, - property, or - independence which is the hardest for you to give to the Lord?*
- Gen 47:26 Joseph made it a statute concerning the land of Egypt {valid} to this day, that Pharaoh should have the fifth; only the land of the priests did not become Pharaoh's.
- Gen 47:27 Now Israel lived in the land of Egypt, in Goshen, and they acquired property in it and were fruitful and became very numerous.
- *ISRAEL - here is the first time Israel is used as the nation rather than the person Jacob. (Israel/They)*
  - *They acquired property. They too became "sharecroppers"*
  - *"very numerous" - 100 people went to Egypt. Over 2 million left Egypt according to a census in Numbers 1:46 (600,000 men older than 20)*
  - *Jacob + 4 wives to 100 people in 50 years = 6 % growth per year*
  - *100 people x 5 % annually would net 2,000,000 in 215 years (Morris)*
- Gen 47:28 **3) Joseph Swears to Jacob** vs 28-31  
Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years; so the length of Jacob's life was one hundred and forty-seven years.
- *After 17 years he is still sojourning in Egypt. Jacob has not made Egypt home.*
- Gen 47:29 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 now your hand under my thigh and deal with me in kindness and faithfulness. Please do not bury me in Egypt,

- Gen 47:30 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."
- *Jacob remembers where Abraham and Isaac are buried. In the Land that God has promised. Jacob desires that his body's permanent resting place be in Canaan not Egypt.*
- Gen 47:31 He said, "Swear to me." So he swore to him. Then Israel bowed {in worship} at the head of the bed.
- *Joseph Swears                  Jacob Worships*

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