

Intro:

Main Point of Text: The twelve tribes of Israel begin small in Egypt, but quickly explode into a nation as God promised.

Sermon Point: *You're growing; keep building.*

Move 1: Don't despise the day of small things.

Vss. 1-6. Covenant people increased in Jacob, but still quite small: 70 souls (Gen. 46:27); 75 if count surviving wives coming down from Canaan, (Acts 7:14). Complete, but small. Mt. 13:31-32; Zech. 4:10.

Move 2: God glorifies Himself by doing big things through small things.

Vs. 7: Population explosion of Israelites! New Pharaoh tries to stop: vss. 8-19; but vs. 20!:

- Ex. 12:37-38: 600,000 men on foot, not including children, women, elderly. Implies *millions!*
- Text wants you to see the marvelous fulfillment of God's promises (Gen 1:28; 9:1; 13:16; **15:5**; 17:2; **22:17**; 28:14; **32:12**; 46:3). Truly, stars in heaven/sand in sea shore: hard to count!
- *But when the time of the promise drew nigh, which God had sworn to Abraham, the people grew and multiplied in Egypt,* (Act 7:17). Fourth generation from Isaac, heir of covenant (Gen. 15:13).
- Zechariah 4:6; 2 Corinthians 12:9;
- *He hath made every thing beautiful in his time ...* (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

Move 3: And His timing is always surprising!

Made Abraham wait 25 years for Isaac. Patriarchs/Joseph died waiting. But now, not long!:

- 64 years between Joseph's death and birth of Moses. Max. 144 years between his death and Exodus.
- 215 years from time 70 souls enter Egypt, leaving in millions! (see Gal. 3:16-17; Wed. class notes).
- Four generations go from 70 to millions! So M. Henry says it is a "strange, extraordinary increase".
- Matthew 13:31-32. Vs. 7: "increased abundantly": lit. Heb. "teemed/swarmed".
- Zech. 4:10 – plummet in Zerubbabel's hands: God is building even when not obvious.

Conclusion:

Jesus: ... *I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.* (Matthew 16:18)

You're growing; keep building.

PECA, Wednesday Night Study. Chronology of transition from Genesis to Exodus and the length of the stay of the Israelites in Egypt. “It All Adds Up”

Source's details: *The Chronology of the OT*, Dr. Floyd Nolen Jones (“Jacob's Kindred”, pp. 67-69; see previous hand out; and “The 430-Year Sojourn” through “430 or 400 Years of Affliction?”, pp. 49-60).

First, we revisit Exodus 1:1-5: “seventy souls”

- Review of Genesis 46:26-27 (70 souls) and Acts 7:14 (75 souls) from previous study.
- A case of different entities/subjects: “house of Jacob” and “Jacob and all his kindred”
 - Genesis 46:27 = “house of Jacob” is Jacob and all his seed (“out of his loins”, vs. 26; Ex. 1:5). It is Jacob and his sons without their wives (vs. 26) and Joseph and his two sons = 70.
 - Acts 7:14: “Jacob and all his kindred” = Jacob and his seed (Gen. 46:27) plus the sons' wives from Egypt excluded in Gen. 46:26, thus not including Joseph's wife = 75.
 - There is no contradiction. Pay attention to the terms and do the math. It adds up!

“Short Sojourning” View of Israelites in Egypt Before the Exodus (total of 215 years, not 400):

- Not new: held by early church father, Tertullian, for instance. First, broader issue:
 - Exodus 12:40-41 and Galatians 3:16-17: “430 years”
 - Genesis 15:13-14 and Acts 7:6: “400 years”
- Again, difference in terms being used of overlapping but different time sections:
 - Exodus 12:40-41, “sojourning”. Said of “the children of Israel”, a reference to all the Patriarchs, including Abraham, who initiated the sojourn:
 - Genesis 12:10; 19:9; 20:1; 21:23, 34; 23:4; 26:3; 32:4; 35:27; 47:4.
 - *By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed ... By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob ...* (Hebrews 11:8-10)
 - *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.* (Hebrews 11:13)
 - Never said in Ex. 12:40-41 that the Jews “dwelt” or were “slaves” in Egypt. Lineage.
 - Galatians 3:16-17 describes the time between the *promise to Abraham* and the *Exodus*:
 - Vs. 16: “to thy seed” is the 400 years from the time of Isaac's weaning at 5 years old (Gen. 21:8) and thus becoming the true heir of the promise to the time of the Exodus. Gen. 15:13-14 and Acts 7:6 speak of the “seed” of Abraham sojourning for 400 years. That would not include Abraham himself for 30 years before included in Galatians.
 - Vs. 17: speaks of the time of the promise to Abraham and the time of the Exodus.
 - Abraham was 75 when he came to the PL having received the promise (Gen. 12:1-4)
 - Abraham was 100 when Isaac was born (25 years later).
 - Isaac weaned, became seed of the promise formally at 5 years old (5 years more)
 - $75 + 25 + 5 = 30$ extra years of “sojourning” and time between covenant and Law.
- How to properly read the “introversion” in Genesis 15:13 to see it all add up (Jones, 59):
 - (A) Thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs
 - (B) and they shall serve them
 - (B) and they shall afflict them
 - (A) four hundred years

- “A and A correspond to the same event and to each other. They define the whole period of the seed (through Isaac when weaned) sojourning in Canaan and dwelling in Egypt without permanent land holdings in either as being 400 years.
- “B and B likewise correspond to each other but relate to a different event from that of which A and A speak. B and B are parenthetical and only relate to the dwelling, servitude, and affliction in Egypt. As has been demonstrated, that was of 215 years duration. Further details concerning the servitude in Egypt referred to in clauses B and B in Egypt are given in Genesis 15:14-16.”

Why this matters:

- The above makes all these Scriptures add up and not have to make exact numbers given without an “about” qualification (e.g., Acts 13:20) to be an estimate but exact, as they are.
- The Bible is upheld as the Word of God and that is consistent in all its parts (WCF 1:5).
- Moses, Stephen, Paul know what they are talking about! OT and NT are inspired and inerrant!
- Will effect the focus of the opening sermon on Exodus 1:1-7 this Lord's Day, Moses' early life, and when we arrive at Ex. 13:40-41.

Related to the topic of transitioning from Genesis.

- Jacob entered Egypt with his family 215 years after Abraham's sojourn began. (At Genesis 47:9, he is 130 years old).
- Abrahams' entry to Canaan until death of Joseph (at 110 years old, Gen. 50:22) = 286 years.
- From Moses' birth to Exodus is 80 years (Ex. 7:7; Acts 7:23-30). $286 + 80 = 366$ years (of the whole 430 year sojourn).
- $430 - 366 = 64$ years between the death of Joseph and the birth of Moses (end of Genesis and opening of Exodus). Not a very long time before things get back for the Israelites in Egypt!
- Thus, maximum time of bondage for Israelites in Egypt is 144 years, not 400 as often assumed.

Another Resource to help explain the situation of the years between the end of Genesis and the opening of Exodus, from the death of Joseph until the birth of Moses and his leading the Exodus at age 80. From, “The 400 Years – The 430 Years”, Don Roth, www.t-cog.org:

“It should be clear that the 400 years and the 430 years culminate at the same time in Exodus 12:40. This is confirmed in Acts 7:6 “But God spoke in this way: that his descendents would dwell in a foreign land, and that they would bring them into bondage and oppress *them* four hundred years.”

Now, start counting the years forward from Genesis 12:4 to determine the passage of time to the death of Joseph.

Genesis 12:4	Abraham is 75 years old.
Genesis 21:1-7	Abraham is 100 years old at Isaac's birth. Genesis 25:26 Isaac is 60 years old at Jacob's birth.
Genesis 47:9	Jacob was 130 years old when he went to Egypt.
Genesis 41:46-47	Joseph was 30 years old when he gave the Pharaoh the meaning of his dream at the start of the seven years of plenty.
Genesis 47:9	Records that Jacob was 130 years old when he came to Egypt in the second year of the famine, making Joseph 30 plus 7 years of plenty, plus 2 years of famine, or 39 years when his father came to Egypt. This shows Joseph's birth at Jacob's age of 91 years.

Abraham was 75 years old when he left Haran, and 100 years at Isaac's birth	25
Isaac was 60 at Jacob's birth	60
Jacob went to Egypt	130
This shows the elapsed time from the beginning of the 430 years to Jacob's arrival in Egypt.	Total 215

Joseph dies at 110 years – see Genesis 50:22. 110 minus 39 = 71 years that the Israelites lived in Egypt peacefully during Joseph's lifetime. 215 plus 71 = 286, and 430 minus 286 = 144 years of slavery in Egypt. This 144 years of slavery assumes that it started at Joseph's death.

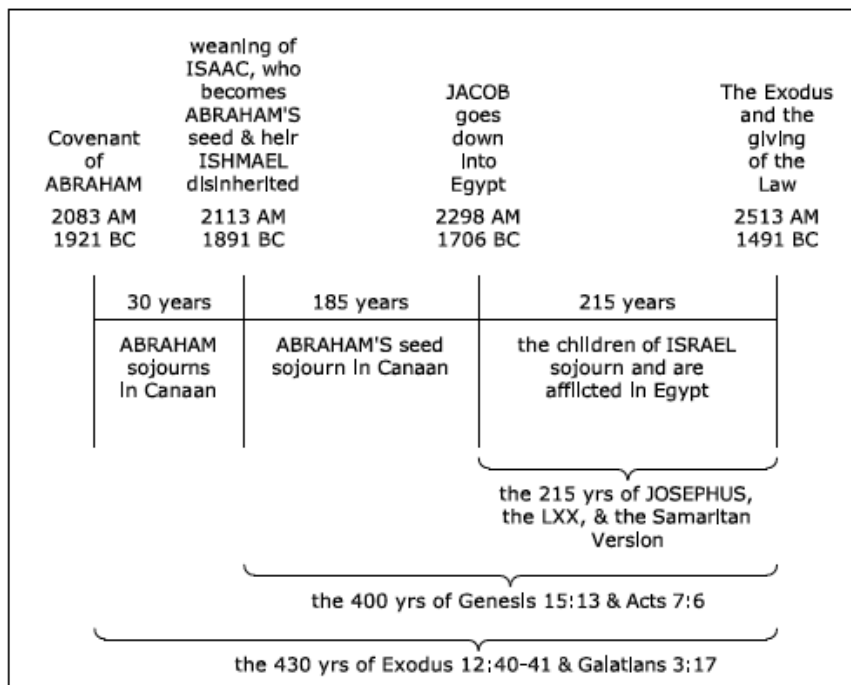
Based on this the following observations can be made. The Israelites came out of slavery at the 430th year when Moses was 80 years old. Moses died at 120 years of age; (Deut.34:7), so subtracting 40 years of wandering would make Moses 80. Figuring back from 430 years, minus Moses' age of 80 at the time of the Exodus to arrive at his birth year, which was 350 years after the original promise given to Abraham. The 350 years minus the 286 years to Joseph's death leaves 64 years. This means Moses was born 64 years after Joseph died.

The starting points of the two prophecies are 30 years apart, but once the 400 year prophecy begins they run simultaneously to the concluding point of Exodus 12:40. The most time the Israelites spent in slavery in Egypt would have been 144 years."

See also: <http://www.ldolphin.org/alanm/abrexo.html> ("The Sojourn of Abraham to Exodus", Alan Montgomery)

Chart 3b from Jones' book:

The 215, the 400, and the 430 years of sojourn in Canaan, and the sojourn & affliction in Egypt



Brief Summary from Chart 3 from Jones' Book:

By comparing Genesis 12:4, Exodus 12:40 and Galatians 3:17 the much debated 430 year epoch can be properly understood. Never is it said in these Scripture references that the Jews **dwelt** in or were **slaves** in Egypt for 430 years. Rather, they teach that the duration of their sojourn from the time Abraham (Abram) entered the Promised Land (Gen.12:1) until the giving of the Law three months after the Exodus was that of 430 years. The **sojourning** commenced at Genesis 12:1 and is quite a different subject from the **dwelling** in Egypt. The Scripture does not say the "sojourning" of the children of Israel in Egypt, but rather who "dwelt" in Egypt. As we have seen, the **dwelling** in Egypt was only 215 years. The dwelling is to be distinguished from the broader "sojourning", which was over another 215 years. Galatians 3:17 makes all this both clear and certain:

And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.

The Galatian text unequivocally declares that the interval from the Covenant with Abraham (context, cp. Gal.3:16) to the giving of the Law at Sinai (on the day of Pentecost fifty three days after Passover) was 430 years. Exodus 12:40 is saying that the sojourn of that particular branch of Abraham's lineage as traced through Isaac and Jacob was the group which eventually went down to Egypt. In other words, it is a statement defining and identifying with which of Abraham's lineages the narrative is dealing as Abraham had numerous other lineages, i.e. through Isaac and Jacob - not by way of Ishmael, Esau or Abraham's many offspring by Keturah whom he wed after Sarah died (Genesis 25). The verse is telling us **which** children of Abraham are being focused upon, not how long they were in Egypt. That the lineage of Isaac was the branch selected by God is indisputable for "In Isaac shall thy seed be called" (Genesis 21:12c, cp. 17:19, 21 and Hebrews 11:17-18).

