Old Testament Survey Exodus

General Outline of Exodus

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The Length of the Sojourn in Egypt

The 215 Year Position

1. The LXX states in Exodus 12:40 that it occured 430 years after the sojourn of Abraham in Canaan.

The 430 Year Position

- 1. Stated in Exodus 12:40 as occurring 430 after Jacob's migration to Egypt.
- 2. In Genesis 15:13-16, a sojourn of at least 400 years is predicted.
- 3. In 1 Chronicles 7:25 we find ten generations between Joseph and Joshua, unlikely for 215 years.
- 4. The increase from 75 to a nation of more that 2,000,000 is unlikely in a 215 year timespan.

The Date of the Exodus

The 1290 Position

1. Discrepancies between the Amarna Letters and the Hebrew record (Judges, Joshua, Samuel) point to an earlier date.

The letters from the king of Jerusalem indicate his city was in imminent danger of being conquored by the Habiru. Joshua did indeed menance Jerusalem although he did not take it. It was ultimately taken from the Jebusites during David's reign.

2. The absence of an agricultural civilization in Edom, Moab, and Ammon in the fourteenth century B.C.

Initial surveys by Nelson Gleuck in the Transjordan failed to uncover an advanced agricultural society strong enough to oppose Israel's advance as found in Numbers 21-25. However, further archaelogical excavations have turned up evidence that does point to a large nation in this area.

3. The impossibility of reconciling a 430-year sojourn in Egypt with the Hyksos rule.

Joseph most likely served during the Twelfth Dynasty, before the Hyksos rulers, and in fact, the Hyksos rulers were the ones that "knew not Joseph."

4. The lack of evidence that Thutmose III did any building in the delta area.

Newer archaelogical discoveries point that there was indeed tremendous building projects in the Delta area during the reign of Thutmose III (1501-1447 B.C.).

5. The mention of the city of Ramses in Exodus 1:11.

There is no way the 1290 date can be reconciled with Exodus 1:11 as to the city of Ramses.

The 1445 Position

- 1. 1 Kings 6:1 indicates Solomon's Temple was started in the fourth year of his reign (996 B.C.) and 480 years after the Exodus, which would make the Exodus around 1445 B.C.
- 2. Jephthah reminds the Ammonite invaders in Judges 11:26 that Israel lived in Gilead for over 300 years, a time far too short for the 1290 date.
- 3. In Acts 13:19-20 Paul states that the time between the conquest of Canaan and Samuel was 450 years, a time far too long for the 1290 date.
- 4. The Merneptah Stele indicates Israel was settled in Palestine by 1229. This is hardly consistent with a 1290 date for the Exodus.

The Pharaoah of the Exodus

Merneptah (1234-1224)

- 1. The Merneptah Stele has been used to bolster arguments that he was the Pharaoh of the Exodus.
- 2. Merneptah would have been the Pharaoh of the Exodus if using the later 1290 date of the Exodus.
- 3. The apparent silence in Judges regarding the Palestine expeditions of Seti I and Ramses II seem to indicate that the Israelites were not in the land during the time of these campaigns. However, further study indicates that these campaigns affected

mostly the country of the Philistines, and in fact the times of these campaigns closely coincide with the periods of rest as found in Judges between the periods of oppression of Israel by their enemies.

Amenhotep II (1447-1421)

- 1. Evidence points to Thutmose III (1482-1447) as being the Pharaoh alive at the time of Moses'flight from Egypt. He is the only one who lived long enough to span Moses' flight from Egypt and the time of his calling some forty years later.
- 2. Amenhotep II (1447-1421) was unable to execute many military campaigns after his fifth year (1445 B.C.), due possibly to the loss of his army in the Red Sea.
- 3. The "Dream Stela" of Thutmose IV indicates that he had a dream that he would one day be the Pharaoah. If he was the firstborn, then there would have been no need for him to have had a divine promise of becoming Pharaoah. This indicates that he was not the first in line to become king, and in fact, his older brother may have been the one to die in the tenth plague.
- 4. Archaeology has shown that no Egyptians were living in the land of Goshen during the reign of Thutmose III.
- 5. John Garstang's excavation of Jericho points to a date of around 1400 B.C. for it's destruction.

The Plagues

| 1 | 7:14-24 | Nile River turned to blood | Hapi - spirit of the Nile |
|----|----------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | Khnum - guardian of the Nile |
| 2 | 8:1-15 | Frogs | Heqt - form of a frog |
| | | _ | Hapi - spirit of the Nile |
| 3 | 8:16-19 | Swarms of lice/gnats | Uncertain |
| 4 | 8:20-32 | Flies | Uatchit - manifested as a fly |
| 5 | 9:1-7 | Disease on Cattle | Apis - bull revered |
| | | | Ptah, Mnevis, Hathor |
| 6 | 9:8-11 | Boils or Sores | Sekhmet - goddess with the power |
| | | | to heal |
| | | | Serapis - healing god |
| 7 | 9:12-35 | Hail | Seth - protector of the crops |
| | | | Nut - sky goddess |
| 8 | 10:1-20 | Locusts | Isis - goddess of life |
| | | | Seth - protector of the crops |
| 9 | 10:21-29 | Darkness | Ra - sun god |
| | | | Atum - god of the setting sun |
| | | | Amon-Re |
| 10 | 11:1-10 | Death of the Firstborn | Osiris - giver of life |

The Furniture of the Tabernacle

Brazen Alter - place where the burnt offerings were sacrificed.

Laver - washbasin for the priest's to perform ceremonial washings.

Table of Shewbread - typified the provision of God and the twelve tribes.

Candlestick - lit the inner holy place typifying the presence of the Holy Spirit and the light he brings.

Altar of Incense - typifies the prayers of the people of God.

Ark of the Covenant - contained the tables of the law.

Mercy Seat - place where the blood was put once/year on the Day of Atonement to cover the sins of Israel.