

Gen 47:13-25 Joseph and the Famine

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Gen 47:13-25

¹³ And *there was* no bread in all the land; for the famine *was* very sore, so that the land of Egypt and *all* the land of Canaan fainted by reason of the famine. ¹⁴ And Joseph gathered up all the **money**^a that was found in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, for the corn which they bought: and Joseph brought the **money** into Pharaoh's house. ¹⁵ ^b And when **money** failed **H8552 tamam** in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came unto Joseph, and said, Give us bread: for why should we die in thy presence? for the **money** faileth **H656 apses**. ¹⁶ And Joseph said, Give your cattle; and I will give you for your cattle, if **money** fail **H656 apses**. ¹⁷ And they brought their cattle unto Joseph: and Joseph gave them bread *in exchange* for horses, and for the flocks, and for the cattle of the herds, and for the asses: and he fed them with bread for all their cattle for that year. ¹⁸ When that year was ended **H8552 tamam**, they came unto him the second year, and said unto him, We will not hide *it* from my lord, how that our **money** is spent; my lord also hath our herds of cattle; there is not ought left in the sight of my lord, but our bodies, and our lands: ¹⁹ Wherefore shall we die before thine eyes, both we and our land? buy us and our land for bread, and we and our land will be servants unto Pharaoh: and give *us* seed, that we may live, and not die, that the land be not desolate. ²⁰ And Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh^c; for the Egyptians sold every man his field, because the famine prevailed over them: so the land became Pharaoh's. ²¹ And as for the people, he removed them to cities^d from *one* end of the borders of Egypt even to the *other* end thereof. ²² Only the land of the priests bought he not; for the priests had a portion *assigned them* of Pharaoh, and did eat their portion which Pharaoh gave them: wherefore they sold not their lands. ²³ Then Joseph said unto the people, Behold, I have bought you this day and your land for Pharaoh: lo, *here is* seed for you, and ye shall sow the land. ²⁴ And it shall come to pass in the increase, that ye shall give the fifth *part* unto Pharaoh, and four parts shall be your own, for seed of the field, and for your food, and for them of your households, and for food for your little ones. ²⁵ And they said, Thou hast saved our lives: let us find grace in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's servants.

^a **Money**: H3701 *keseph* silver⁽²⁸⁷⁾, money⁽¹¹²⁾, price⁽³⁾ = KJC Occurrences: 403

^b See Word-Study-**H656-apses-Fail-and-H8552-tamam**-consumed-ended, article [#359](#)

^c this implies that the land wasn't Pharaoh's to begin with. When he "took" the land see [Gen 41:34](#) he bought it not stole it.

^d This implies they were on the land. You tend to lose your sovereignty when you do this.

MY COMMENTS ARE A WORK IN PROGRESS

Commentary

Biblical Commercial Redemption (BCR) Perspective

Looking at this from a BCR perspective, the obvious comparison is to HJR192 i.e. FDR and the New Deal.

Could the Egyptians have gone to Joseph and set-off the food they needed? After all isn't the job of the Trustee (Pharaoh / Yoseph) to look out for the interest of the citizens? If they didn't then it's fraud and a conspiracy. But if you know what's going on then why couldn't have you “set-off settled and closed” any debts that you have without having to sell anything.^e Maybe the moral of the story is that the Egyptians, if they want to act righteously, need to sell everything and put it in a trust^f. It is true that this is what was forced upon them by YHVH's intervention of the seven years of plenty followed by the seven years of famine, but should have they done this to begin with?

The priestly class does not sell their land (Gen 47:22)

As an exercise to try to understand this, let's do some metaphorical substitution of the players involved.

Joseph is a type of Christ (*Meshiach*)^g, Egypt is the world and HaArets is the heavenly realm, The Egyptians are the public^h ruled by the Pharaoh (let's call him an Edomite), and the priestly class is the twelve tribes of Israel. At a point in time the Pharaoh delegates his power to the Messiah and becomes a figure head (for public consumption). The people/public go to the Messiah for substance and are judged by the twelve tribes for righteous judgment (and for the Peace of Jerusalem).

Joseph can't buy land from the priestly class (the judicial branch) because that we make them to dependent on the executive branch. So that the judicial branch does not become to independent, they don't on large tracts of land but they do own the suburbs.

I would say that Joseph is also the APCⁱ office holder for Elohim? He has custody of the of the public because they are incompetent in the law form of Torah. So as to not have anarchy, public policy is the law form they operate under. The Egyptian public is an “enemy of the state” God because they do not seek a Peace Covenant with him and to follow the Torah.

^e **ToDo:** expand on this

^f See “Treasures-in-Heaven” where I argue that the parable of the rich man is about putting our assets in an **eleemosynary trust**.

^g In the “Hebrew Roots Movement”, there is a concept that there are two kinds of Messiah's, Meshiach Ben-Joseph and Meshiach Ben-David. Meshiach Ben-Joseph (who comes first) is the suffering servant. See Exegesis-Timeline.doc, Prince-of-Peace-Sar-Shalom.doc

^h **Public** That vast multitude, which includes the ignorant, the unthinking, and the credulous, who, in making purchases, do not stop to analyze, but are governed by appearance and general impressions.⁷ J.W. Collins Co. v. F.M. Paist Co. (DC Pa) 14 F2d 614. Ballentines Law Dic. 3rd ed

ⁱ **APC:** Alien Property Custodian. An officer who takes custody of the property, corporeal and incorporeal, of an enemy alien not licensed to retain control of his property. Edited source Ballentine's 1969 law dictionary

Ahavta Comments

source: [http://www.ahavta.org/Commentary%20Y-1/Y1-43.htm\(V.13\)](http://www.ahavta.org/Commentary%20Y-1/Y1-43.htm(V.13))

Israel came down to Egypt in the second year of the famine. In the third year, Joseph collected all of the Egyptian's money for grain. In the fourth year, he purchased all of their livestock for grain. In the fifth year, Joseph obtained title to all of their lands for grain. In the sixth year, the Egyptians became indentured servants in return for grain. In the seventh year of the famine, Joseph gave the Egyptians seed to sow for the next year's crops. Joseph moved the Egyptians around (moving all of City A to City B, City B to City C, and City C to City A) so that the people would not feel connected to certain lands as owners.

Thus Joseph purchased everything for the Pharaoh, picturing how Yeshua would purchase everything for his Father.

After the famine was over, Joseph required the Egyptians to return one-fifth of every crop to the Pharaoh's treasury.