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HOMELAND

The sojourning of the Israelites lasted for 430 years. (This seems to start from the day Abram left his **homeland** to go to Canaan. It doesn't mean the Israelites were in Egypt for that entire time.)

- **Exodus 12:40:** "Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years."

The **sojourning** of the Israelites ended exactly 430 years to the day after it began. (It seems this started the day Abram left his **homeland** to go to Canaan.)

- **Exodus 12:41:** "And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt."

Ruth left her **homeland** (Moab), and the people she knew, for a new country that she had never seen before (Israel) that was filled with people she didn't know.

- **Ruth 2:11:** "And Boaz answered and said unto her, It hath fully been shewed me, all that thou hast done unto thy mother in law since the death of thine husband: and how thou hast left thy father and thy mother, and the land of thy nativity, and art come unto a people which thou knewest not heretofore."

Nehemiah told the king that he was sad because of the plight

of his **homeland** (Israel).

- **Nehemiah 2:3:** "And said unto the king, Let the king live for ever: why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' sepulchres, lieth waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire?"

There are times when God punishes nations by removing them from their **homeland** and scattering them among other nations.

- **Ezekiel 12:15:** "And they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall scatter them among the nations, and disperse them in the countries."

There are times when God punishes people by driving them out of their **homeland**, never to return.

- **Ezekiel 13:9:** "And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither shall they enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD."

At the end of Daniel's life he would stand in his lot (his property in Israel). This means he would see his **homeland** again and would die there in peace.

- **Daniel 12:13:** "But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days."

In the end times, Tyre, Zidon, and those who live along the coasts of Palestine will sell the Jews into slavery to the Greeks in order to remove the Jews far from their **homeland**. It will be a deliberate act of oppression against the Jews.

- **Joel 3:4-6:** "Yea, and what have ye to do with me, O Tyre, and Zidon, and all the coasts of Palestine? will ye render me a recompence? and if ye recompense me, swiftly and speedily will I return your recompence upon your own head; Because ye have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried into your temples my goodly pleasant things: The children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem have ye sold unto the Grecians, that ye might remove them far from their border."

The **homeland** of the Edomites had been made desolate. (The Edomites wanted to rebuild it, but God was against them.)

- **Malachi 1:4:** "Whereas Edom saith, We are impoverished, but we will return and build the desolate places; thus saith the LORD of hosts, They shall build, but I will throw down; and they shall call them, The border of wickedness, and, The people against whom the LORD hath indignation for ever."

NATIVE, NATIVITY, NATIVES

The new king who arose over Egypt after Joseph died was part of a group that had fewer people than the Israelites. (He may have been a foreigner, and not a **native** Egyptian.)

- **Exodus 1:8-9:** "Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph. And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we:"

Under the Mosaic Law, the Israelites were required to treat foreigners who lived in their land as if they had been born among them as **natives**.

- **Leviticus 19:34:** "But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God."

The new proclamation that said the Jews could defend themselves against their enemies was written in the **native** language of the people, so everyone could understand it.

- **Esther 8:9:** "Then were the king's scribes called at that time in the third month, that is, the month Sivan, on the three and twentieth day thereof; and it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded unto the Jews, and to the lieutenants, and the deputies and rulers of the provinces which are from India unto Ethiopia, an hundred twenty and seven provinces, unto every province according to the writing thereof, and unto every people after their language, and to the Jews according to

their writing, and according to their language."

God said the person who was being carried away would never again see his **native** country. (This seems to be referring to Jehoahaz, who was carried away captive by the Egyptians.)

- **Jeremiah 22:10:** "Weep ye not for the dead, neither bemoan him: but weep sore for him that goeth away: for he shall return no more, nor see his native country."

When God spoke about Nebuchadnezzar smiting Egypt, He said the foreigners who were living in Egypt said to one another that they should return to the land of their **nativity**.

- **Jeremiah 46:14-16:** "Declare ye in Egypt, and publish in Migdol, and publish in Noph and in Tahpanhes: say ye, Stand fast, and prepare thee; for the sword shall devour round about thee. Why are thy valiant men swept away? they stood not, because the Lord did drive them. He made many to fall, yea, one fell upon another: and they said, Arise, and let us go again to our own people, and to the land of our nativity, from the oppressing sword."

With the gift of tongues, the miracle is happening within the person who's listening. When one person speaks and three people listen, each of the three people hear their own **native** language, regardless of what the speaker is actually saying.

- **Acts 2:6:** "Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language."

When the Jews listened to the disciples on the day of Pentecost and heard their own **native** languages, they pointed out that the disciples were all from Galilee and were speaking languages they couldn't possibly have known.

- **Acts 2:7-11:** "And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God."

When the Jews who came to Jerusalem for Pentecost heard the disciples speaking in their own **native** languages, they were filled with doubt.

- **Acts 2:12:** "And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?"

When some of the Jews heard the disciples speaking in their own **native** languages (which was a staggering miracle), they chose to ignore it. Instead of taking it seriously they mocked the disciples and claimed that they were drunk (which was a ridiculous and stupid interpretation of what was going on.)

- **Acts 2:6, 13:** "Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. ... Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine."

God told Abraham that his descendants would be oppressed for 400 years. (This period seems to have started from the day Abraham left his **native** country and isn't restricted to the time the Hebrews were in Egypt, which seems to have been around two centuries. Abraham and his descendants were oppressed from the day he left his native land. For them *all* the lands they traveled through and lived in were strange lands, because none of those lands belonged to them.)

- **Acts 7:6:** "And God spake on this wise, That his seed should sojourn in a strange land; and that they should bring them into bondage, and entreat them evil four hundred years."

It seems the Hebrews were never considered **natives** to the land of Egypt, even though many of them were born there and lived there all their lives.

- **Acts 13:17:** "The God of this people of Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an high arm brought he them out of it."