

AdSS23- Jacob and family moved to Egypt

Mediterranean Sea

Israel

Hebron

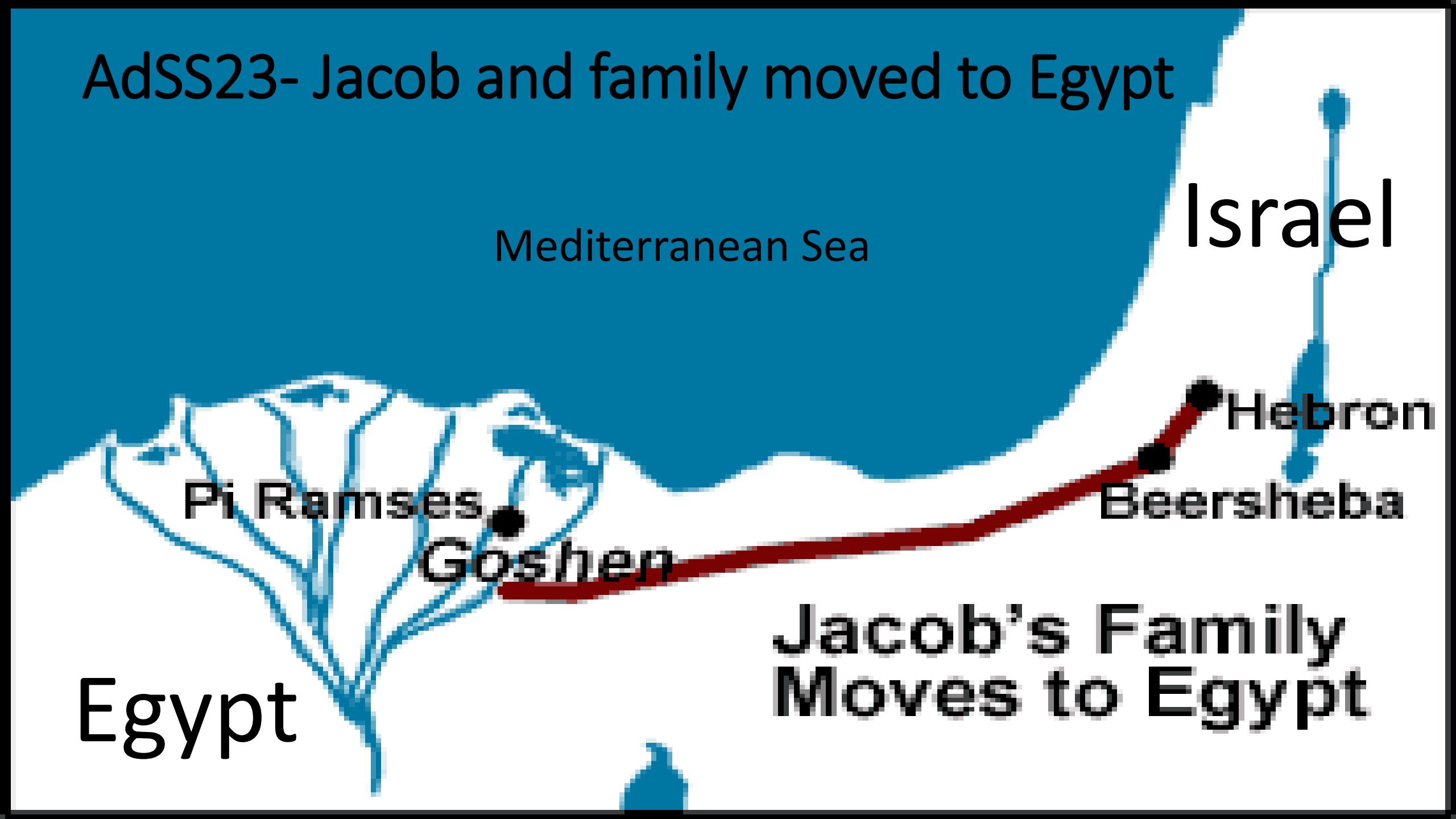
Beersheba

Pi Ramses

Goshen

Egypt

Jacob's Family
Moves to Egypt



(1) Background: Joseph's brothers went back to Canaan and told Jacob that Joseph was still alive. Jacob and family, totalling 70 members, moved to Egypt to meet Joseph.

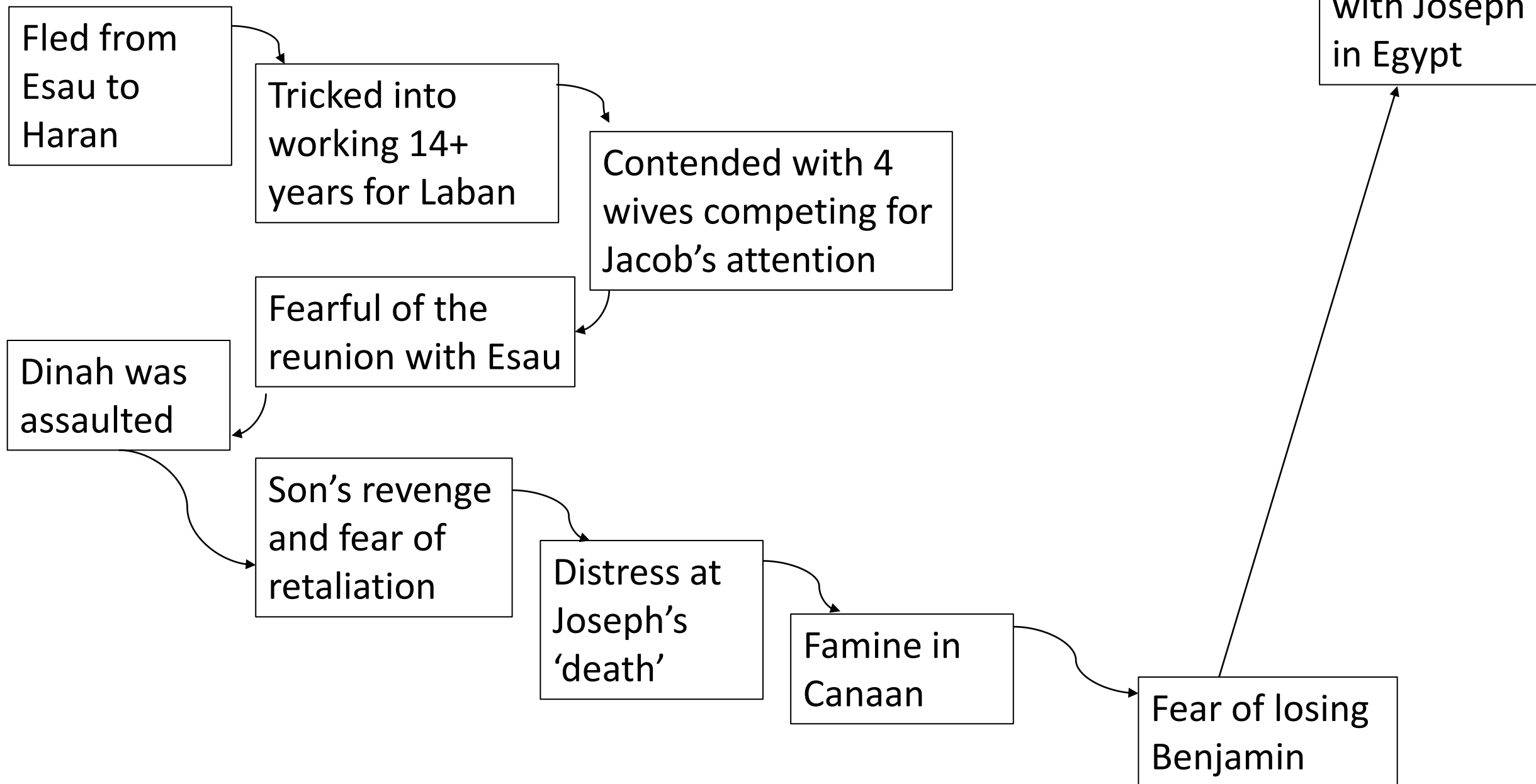
(2) Joseph went to Goshen to meet his father Jacob. (Gen 46:29-34)

(3) Jacob met Pharoah. (Gen 47:7-9)

(4) Jacob said unto Pharoah,

“The days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years: few and evil have the days of the years of my life been...” (Gen 47:9)

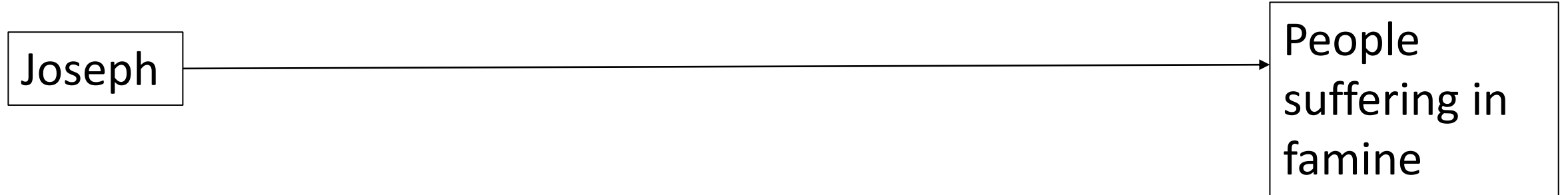
(5) Jacob's difficult life



(6) Spiritual Lessons:

- (a) As Christians, we expect God's blessing in our life. And God does bless us. Yet, Jacob as a spiritual father of the faith went through such a difficult life.
- (b) We should be contented with what we have.
- Happy with our home.
 - Happy with our work.
 - Happy with our salary.
- (c) Despite the difficulties, Jacob remained faithful to God. So should we.
- Steer away from sin.
 - Do things which please God.
 - Seeking God's will and direction for our lives.
 - Close walk with God in prayer and reading of the Word.

(7) Wisdom in managing resources during the famine. (Gen 47:14-26)



The people paid:

(a) Money for food. (Gen 47:14)

(b) No money -> then exchanged cattle for food. (Gen 47:16)

(c) No cattle -> then sold the land to Pharoah and worked on the land for food.
(Gen 47:20-21)

(d) The people became farmers in the land bought by Pharaoh. (Gen 47:21)

(e) Joseph gave them seeds for cultivating, on condition that $\frac{1}{5}$ of the harvest went to Pharaoh. The people may keep the $\frac{4}{5}$ for themselves. (Gen 47:23-24)

(f) The people were grateful to Joseph for saving their lives. They were also happy to work in the land for Pharaoh. (Gen 47:25)

Note: The above (e) is an early form of taxation on the people.

(8) Spiritual Lessons:

- (a) God gave Joseph wisdom in managing resources during the famine.
- (b) Joseph did not give free food but required payment. In the same way, we must learn to be self-sufficient and not expect free goods and services.
- (c) There was no dispute with the people and they were thankful to Joseph for saving their lives. We should also pray for wisdom to manage our resources:
- Manage our staff
 - Manage our work
 - Manage our finances
 - Etc...

(9) Jacob was getting old and managed his family as follows:

- gave instructions for his burial in Canaan (Gen 47:29-30);
- blessed Joseph's sons, Ephraim and Manasseh (Gen 48:16);
- blessed Joseph (Gen 48:15);
- remembered God's blessing to him (Gen 48:3-4, 16)

(10) Spiritual Lessons:

(a) Despite all the difficulties in his life, Jacob thanked God for His blessing and protection from harm. In the same way, we must count our blessings.

- Despite losing conveniences due to the pandemic, we are still able to work.
- Despite losing our job, God will provide as He always does.
- Despite falling sick, God will heal according to His grace.

"God's providence is nothing more than His goodness in action."

-Spurgeon

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