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Torah Portion Shemot

Absence, Waiting, and Return

Genesis 50:26 At the time of his death, Joseph had lived in Egypt about 80 years, having become a "Prince of Egypt" around the age of 30.

Exodus 1:6-7 If the famine was supposed to be over 14 years after Joseph first became a "Prince" or when he was around age 44, and that entire generation died of old age, why are the Children of Israel still in Egypt. Why didn't they return to Canaan? Did they forget God's promise?

Genesis 46:1-4 God's promise.

Exodus 1:17-20 At least the Hebrew midwives remembered God and God responded to them.

Exodus 2:23-24 Even if the Children of Israel forgot God, God remembered them.

According to the commentary, nearly 210 years had passed since Jacob and his family descended into Egypt and 116 years had passed since the beginning of Israel's enslavement to Egypt. As far as the Biblical record is concerned, it's been over two centuries since a Hebrew has heard from God directly.

Exodus 3:1-6 The first recorded personal encounter of a Hebrew with God since the time of Jacob.

It's generally accepted that 400 years took place between the end of the period recorded in the Tanakh (Old Testament) and the period recorded in the Apostolic Scriptures. Why was there another apparent "disconnect" between Israel and God for so long (long at least by human standards)?

Exodus 2:15 Why did Moses go to Midian and settle there? Why didn't he return to Canaan, the land promised to Abraham's descendants, or to Haran, the land from where Isaac and Jacob's wives were born?

Exodus 3:12 God told Jacob He would be with him when he descended into Egypt as well. Jacob went willingly. Why does Moses resist?

Exodus 3:18 Is God telling Moses to lie to the king of Egypt, since when the Children of Israel leave, they have no intention of returning after three days?

Exodus 3:19 Even if God knows that the king of Egypt will not let the Children of Israel go, why construct the deception of the three-day trip? Is it OK to lie to someone as long that that someone is dishonest.

Exodus 5:22-23 How is this like Yeshua coming as the Messiah who the people believed was going to rescue them from Roman occupation, only to die on the cross instead?

John 6:14-15 The people wanted to make Yeshua king.

John 20:19 The disciples hiding out after the crucifixion.

Exodus 6:1 The Children of Israel would have to wait through 12 plagues including the death of the firstborn before being released from slavery. They weren't always patient. Look how long we've been waiting for Messiah's return. What about our patience?

Revelation 22:20-21 "I am coming soon." How soon?