

The Covenant Promise

430 Years

Abraham to the Exodus

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Contents

430 Years – Abraham to the Exodus	2
Background	2
Purpose.....	3
History	3
430 Years	3
Contract Offer	4
Sojourning.....	5
400 Years	6
Weaning of Isaac.....	8
Flavius Josephus – 215 Years	10
430 Year Timeline.....	11
Unrelated Timelines	14
Conclusion.....	15
Summary Timeline	16

430 Years – Abraham to the Exodus

There are a number of scriptures that make reference to 400+ year time frames. A concordance search will reveal 400, 430, 450, 480 and 490 years mentioned in various verses in the Bible. A thorough study of these scriptures indicate the 400 and 430 year scriptures directly relate to each other, while the 450, 480 and 490 year references primarily relate to other events. There are many interpretations and sometimes competing explanations for each of these timeframes.

Background

This study will focus specifically on the 400 and 430 year intervals. The other timeframe intervals are mentioned only for background information. There is little debate that the end of the 430 years is marked by the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. However, in researching this topic, it is apparent there are competent scholars with divergent views on the beginning event that initiates the start of the 400 and/or 430 year count. Following are a few of the various events that have been proposed as the start date for the 400 and/or 430 year interval:

- The ratification of the covenant while Abraham is in a deep sleep – Gen 15:9-18
- The birth of Isaac – Gen 21:5
- Joseph sold into Egyptian slavery – Gen 37:2-27
- Jacob arrives in Egypt – Gen 47:9

Some commentators explain that 430 years is an exact count and the 400 years is not intended as a specific timeframe but should only be considered as an approximation. While others insist that 400 years was the exact amount of time the Israelites were in Egypt. Yet others say the Israelites were in Egypt 430 years, starting with Joseph's sale into slavery by his brothers. Some even make the case that the 400 years is represented as the time the Israelites were under servitude of Pharaoh. It should be apparent that there are many proposals to reconcile the 400 and 430 year timeframe.

Is it even possible to reconcile the Biblical record and prove the start and ending events that comprise the 400 and 430 year period of time? Does the 400 year period fit somehow into the 430 year timeframe?

One part of the equation is precisely known, and that is the end of the 430 year timeframe. It is marked on the day Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt. As a note, they actually departed at night on Abib 15, the First Day of Unleavened Bread (Deut 16:1 and Nu 33:1-3). In Exodus 12:40-42 Moses states:

- *Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years. 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 YHWH went out from the land of Egypt. It is a night to be much observed unto YHWH for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of YHWH to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations.*

It is clear the night the Israelites left Egypt was the 430th year of sojourning and that it is a night to be observed.

- Observed = H8107 pronounced "shimoor" = mark, guard, protect, be circumspect, preserve, regard, observe. This night is a night to remember throughout all generations. That would include today.

This certainly is the anniversary of a significant event, but what event initiated this 430 year memorial and why is it important? What significant event started the 430 year count that completed the exact day the Exodus took place?

Also in Galatians Paul makes reference to 430 years, although the law was given at Mt. Sinai some 50 days after the Israelites left Egypt:

- *And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by YHWH in Messiah, that it should make the promise of no effect. (Gal 3:17 NKJV)*

We can see from Gal 3:17 the beginning of the 430 year timeframe was the covenant promise. This is the event that initiated the 430 years. During this period of time, we understand from Ex 12:40, the Israelites were sojourning for a period of 430 years. Where were they sojourning, only in Egypt? Or does this indicate the sojourning included time elsewhere? In any case, the completion of the 430 year period of time is so significant that we are reminded to observe the anniversary of the event during the Passover season. There are additionally 2 more scriptures that refer to the same timeframe as 400 years.

- *And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years. (Gen 15:13 KJV)*
- *And YHWH 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. (Act 7:6 KJV)*

Are these verses in conflict with Ex 12:40 and Gal 3:17? Some think the 400 years are a convenient rounded estimate of 430 years. Were the Israelites actually in bondage under an Egyptian Pharaoh for 400 years? Let's take a look.

Purpose

This study will detail the events from the beginning through the end of the 430 year covenant promise timeline and show how the 400 years are reconciled within it.

History

We will examine a number of scriptures that will provide a foundation from which to understand the timeline.

430 Years

Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years. (Ex 12:40 KJV)

Some commentaries interpret this scripture by assuming the Israelites spent the entire 430 years in Egypt. What Moses is actually showing us is the total time the Israelites sojourned was 430 years and he is parenthetically adding that these are the same Israelites who dwelt in Egypt. In other words, Moses is adding clarity to

clearly show the identity of the sojourning Israelites, by further identifying them as “the ones who also spent time in Egypt”.

The original Hebrew to Greek translation called the Septuagint, sometimes referenced as LXX, adds significant details to Ex 12:40 as shown below. As a side reference LXX means 70 because there were 70 Jewish scholars involved in the translation project of the Torah that was completed approximately 250 BCE, under the direction of Ptolemy II. The Septuagint was the first translation of the original Hebrew text into Greek. The Greek Septuagint was the main reference translation available for Greek speaking people during Yahushua’s lifetime in the first century (CE). The Masoretic text translation was a work in progress from the 7th through the 10th century (CE). Even though the Masoretic text is a Hebrew translation, it is predated by at least 700 years by the Septuagint, which is considered a more accurate rendering of the scriptures.

Of interest in this analysis is that the LXX Samaritan version of Ex 12:40 shows the sojourning of the children of Israel included the children and the fathers. This means the 430 years started with the fathers, which would start with and include Abraham. Also of interest in the LXX Samaritan version of Ex 12:40 notice the 430 years includes the time the Israelites (and their fathers) lived in Canaan and Egypt. The LXX Brenton version is included with similar clarifications.

What is significant is the 430 years starts with Abraham and includes the time the Israelites lived in Canaan and Egypt.

- The Septuagint (LXX) text adds a couple of significant details to Ex 12:40 not found in the Masoretic translation (KJV and other modern versions) as follows:
 - *Now the sojourning of the children of Israel and of their fathers which they had dwelt in the land of Canaan and in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. (Samaritan Version)*
 - *And the sojourning of the children of Israel, while they sojourned in the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan, was four hundred and thirty years. (Brenton Version)*

The 430 year count ended with Israel leaving Egypt.

- When they left it was the end of 430 years, to the exact day (Ex12:40)
- Israelites left Egypt the day after Passover (Nu 33:3)
- Israelites left Egypt at night (Deut 16:1)
- Referred to as “a night to be much observed” (Ex 12:42 KJV)

Contract Offer

Now YHWH had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. So Abram departed, as YHWH had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran. (Gen 12:1-4 KJV)

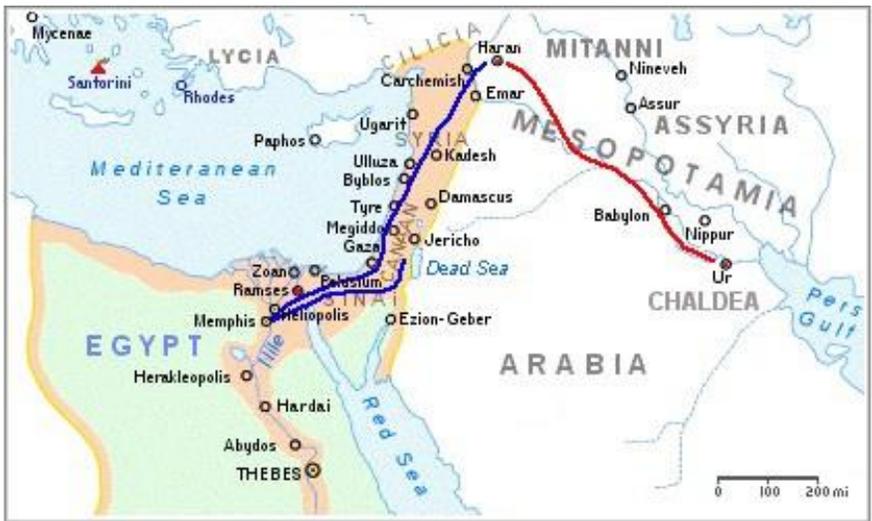
- The contract offer by YHWH was made when Abraham is 75 years old.
- This is the beginning of the 430 year count.

- The promise was made to Abraham not Jacob (*I will make thee a great nation*). The nation of Israel did not start with Jacob, but with Abraham (see Gen 12:2). This passage includes Abraham and Isaac with the children (nation) of Israel. It is noteworthy after Abraham left Haran in Mesopotamia; he lived in Canaan, then went to Egypt because of the severe famine before returning to Canaan (Gen 12:4-12).
- The covenant was first offered to Abraham in Gen 12:1-4

Sojourning

Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years. (Ex 12:40 KJV)

- The word sojourn or sojourning = H1481 = *goor* = to turn aside from the road for a lodging, sojourn as a guest, fear as in a strange place, inhabitant.
- The dictionary definition is similar and means to stay for a time or live temporarily.
- For 430 years Abraham's family lived in temporary conditions, until the promise made by YHWH to Abraham in Gen 12:1-4 was fulfilled and they left Egypt for their permanent habitation in the land we know today as Israel.
- After leaving Haran, Abraham's family first sojourned in Canaan, then moved to Egypt, then moved back to Canaan, then moved back again to Egypt when they reunited with Joseph.



- Departed Haran – Gen 12:1-4
- Canaan 1st time – Gen 12:5-9
- Egypt 1st time – Gen 12:10-20
- Canaan 2nd time – Gen 13:1-9
 - Isaac told not to go to Egypt (yet)

And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar. And YHWH appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of: Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father. (Gen 26:1-3 KJV)

- Abraham, Isaac and Jacob sojourned in the land YHWH had promised them, but as temporary visitors at this time. They were still heirs and had not received the promise.

By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise. (Heb 11:9 KJV)

- Egypt 2nd time - Gen 46:1-8
 - Jacob meets Pharaoh

And Pharaoh said unto Jacob, How old art thou? And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, 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, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage. (Gen 47:8-9 KJV)

Israel also came into Egypt; and Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham. (Psa 105:23 KJV)

- Canaan 3rd time – After the Exodus from Egypt, the Israelites become heirs to the original promise made by YHWH – Nu 34:1-12, Josh 14:1

And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be an Eloah unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their Eloah. (Gen 17:7-8 KJV)

400 Years

And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years. (Gen 15:13 KJV)

- *Know of a surety*
 - H3045 H0345 – same word twice for emphasis
 - Means for sure for sure, know that you know or certainly for a certainty
- *Thy seed*
 - Refers to Abraham's seed which started with Isaac.
 - Isaac starts the 400 year count.
- *Land not theirs*
 - Prior to the Israelites taking possession of the Promised Land, Abraham and his family were sojourners in a foreign land.
 - They lived in Mesopotamia, Egypt and Canaan, but as pilgrims.

- Gen 17:8 – YHWH will give Abram and his descendants the land in which they currently are strangers.
- Ps 105:8-17 - *Which covenant he made with Abraham, and his oath unto Isaac; And confirmed the same unto Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant: Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance* (Ps 105:9-11 KJV).
 - Covenant was made with Abraham. This starts the 430 year count.
 - YHWH's oath went to Isaac – This starts the 400 year count.
- *They shall afflict them*
 - Gen 21:9 – affliction started with Ishmael.
 - Gen 26:7-22 – Isaac needs to protect Rebekah. The Philistines harass Isaac and keep backfilling his wells.
- Henry Ainsworth, a British theologian from the early 1600's comments:
 - Genesis 15 ver. 13 - **KNOWING KNOW**, that is, know assuredly.
 - **Not Theirs**, meaning Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Canaan itself; wherein they were but strangers, Gen. 17:8, Ps. 105:11-12 and therein afflicted. Gen. 21:9, Gen 26:7,14-15, but chiefly in Egypt.
 - **Four Hundred Years**, which began when Ishmael, son of Hagar the Egyptian, mocked and persecuted Isaac. Gen 21:9, Gal. 4:29, which fell out thirty years after the promise.
 - Gen 12:3, which promise was four hundred and thirty years before the law. Gal 3:17 and four hundred and thirty years after that promise, came Israel out of bondage, Ex 12:41.¹
- *And YHWH 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. And the nation to whom they shall be in bondage will I judge, said YHWH: and after that shall they come forth, and serve me in this place.* (Act 7:6-7 KJV)
 - *In a strange land* = G245 = another, not one's own, hostile plus G1093 = soil, region, country. Even though Abraham and his family lived in Canaan, they did not possess the land, they were tenants under supervision by the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites (Gen 15:21, Jos 3:10). After the Exodus, the Israelites would be given, by promise, an eternal deed of trust for the land of Canaan (Gen 17:7-8).
 - *Bring into bondage* = G1402 = bring into slavery (over a period of time).
- *But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman* (Gal 4:29-30 KJV).

¹ Henry Ainsworth, *Annotations on the Pentateuch or the Five Books of Moses; the Psalms of David and the Song of Solomon* (Glasgow, Scotland: Blackie and Son, 1843), p. 83.

- Persecuted = G1377 = pursue, by implication persecute. The mocking referenced in Gen 21:9 was the beginning of the 400 years affliction prophesied in Gen 15:13.
 - The 400 year count starts with Isaac.
 - Persecution starts at Isaac's weaning with the subsequent mocking by Ishmael.
 - Ishmael would not inherit the promise and was sent away by Abraham.
- *And the child grew, and was weaned: and Abraham made a great feast the same day that Isaac was weaned. And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking. Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac. (Gen 21:8-10 KJV)*
 - Dr. Floyd Nolen Jones in his work *The Chronology of the Old Testament* concludes the 400 years of sojourning and affliction started with Isaac's weaning at five years old when Ishmael mocked him.²
 - James Usher in his *The Annals of the World* concludes Isaac's weaning and Ishmael's mocking occurred 30 years after the promise to Abraham.³

Weaning of Isaac

And the child grew, and was weaned: and Abraham made a great feast the same day that Isaac was weaned. And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking. (Gen 21:8 KJV)

We already understand from the previous section titled "400 Years" that Abraham and his family would live in a land that was not their possession and they would be afflicted 400 years. We also know the 430 year count started with the covenant promise being made to Abraham when he was 75 years old. In Gen 21:5 we also find that Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born. That would be 25 years after the start of the 430 year count or year 405 (430-25=405). We also know that the mocking (affliction and persecution) would start at 400 years (Gen 15:13 and Gal 4:29). In Gen 21:8-9 above, it is apparent that Ishmael started mocking Isaac at the celebration Abraham put on when he was weaned. This starts the 400 year count and means that Isaac was weaned at 5 years old. Some may think that is too old for weaning, however the environment and culture in Abraham's culture was far different than today's practice.

² Dr. Floyd Nolen Jones, *The Chronology of the Old Testament* (Green Forest, Arkansas: New Leaf Press, 2005), p. 57-60.

³ James Ussher, *The Annals of the World* translated by Larry and Marion Pierce (Green Forest, Arkansas: Master Books, 2003), p. 26-27.

In the western world, a child is commonly weaned in terms of months; however other cultures, especially older ones more typically weaned their child in terms of years. Three to five years was common in ancient times. There is no direct scriptural reference that proves the age when Isaac was weaned however the math indicated he was 5 years old.

We will digress to look at another scriptural example that indicates the weaning age in Old Testament Israel was much older than we may realize.

A useful example is found in 1 Sam 1:20-28. Samuel is born to Hannah, who after weaning presents him to the priest Eli for a lifetime of Temple service.

And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of YHWH in Shiloh: and the child was young. And they slew a bullock, and brought the child to Eli. And she said, Oh master, as thy soul liveth, my master, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto YHWH. For this child I prayed; and YHWH hath given me my petition which I asked of him: Therefore also I have lent him to YHWH; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to YHWH. And he worshipped YHWH there. (1Sa 1:24-28 KJV)

- *Child was young* = H5288 = a boy, from the age of infancy to adolescence, a servant, young man.
- Samuel had to be old enough to serve, a 2-3 year old infant would not fit this description. Samuel would need to be at least 5-6 years old in order to be of service.
- *And he worshipped YHWH there* = H7812 = *prostrate* (especially reflexively in homage to royalty or El), bow (self) down, do reverence, make to stoop, worship.
- Although very young, Samuel understood the fundamental reverence of bowing.
- From the outset the boy assisted the priests and ministered before YHWH. This was Samuel's start to a lifetime of Temple service.

While many families today nurture their children to be honest, respect authority and live by the "golden rule", few actually teach YHWH's way of life or the history of the patriarchs. This has not always been the case, especially in Old Testament Israel. You can be sure mothers like Hannah or Sarah taught their children YHWH's law and way of life from infancy.

- *Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of YHWH, to do justice and judgment; that YHWH may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him. (Gen 18:18-19 KJV)*
- *Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. (Pro 22:6 KJV)*

We use an interesting metaphor for those that are young in the word of YHWH. It is called the "milk of the word". Today we think of this as novice believers, which is

correct, however the basis of this phrase are those that are young (babes) in the word. This would equally apply to young children during the childhood years up to about 8 years old. With this in mind, an additional understanding comes from those scriptures that reference "the milk of the word".

- *For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.* (Heb 5:13 KJV)
- *As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.* (1Pe 2:2 KJV)

As a result, the weaning of Isaac and Samuel take on an additional perspective beyond the physical and include a spiritual implication. These young boys, not only were weaned from the physical feeding of their mother's milk, they were also being prepared for the next level of spiritual food. The age this occurred would vary from child to child, however weaning at 4-6 years old does not seem as unconventional as we may think today. From this example we see the age of weaning was likely much older than today's western culture standards. With this background, Isaac being weaned at 5 years old is not an unrealistic assumption.

Flavius Josephus - 215 Years

When you analyze the "430 Year Timeline" below, the years confirming YHWH's covenant promise to Abraham, until Joseph unveils his identity to his speechless brothers in Egypt, are easy to prove scripturally from the births and deaths of the patriarchs. You will notice that it is 215 years from YHWH's covenant with Abraham to Joseph. It also is scripturally provable to calculate when Joseph died in the 430 year timeline. The year Joseph died was year 286 of the 430 year cycle. That leaves only 144 years unaccounted for until the Exodus (430-286=144). According to the research performed, there is no scripturally supportable reconciliation for these final 144 years. We do know that Moses was 80 years old when he led the Exodus out of Egypt. However, that still leaves a gap of 64 years with no scriptural link to Joseph or the other patriarchs.

Secular history helps provide the answer to this problem. It is found in the works of Flavius Josephus:

- *They left Egypt in the month Xanthicus, on the fifteenth day of the lunar month; four hundred and thirty years after our forefather Abraham came into Canaan, but two hundred and fifteen years only after Jacob removed into Egypt. It was the eightieth year of the age of Moses, and of that of Aaron three more. They also carried out the bones of Joseph with them, as he had charged his sons to do.* Josephus - Antiquities 2.15.2
 - The Israelites left Egypt the 15th day of Xanthicus (Macedonian calendar - same as Abib)
 - The Israelites left 215 years after Jacob came to Egypt, marking the half way count to 430 years.

With the help of Flavius Josephus, we are able to accurately complete the 430 year timeline.

430 Year Timeline

The following table details the evidence presented along with the pertinent scriptures.

430 Year Timeline – Abraham Covenant to the Exodus				
Event	Source	Age of Patriarch	Years from the Promise	Years to the Exodus
<p>The law (Sinai) came 430 years after Abram’s promise.</p> <p>Contract Elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The offer – Gen 12:1-3 • Verbal acceptance (consideration and inspection) Gen 12:4-7, Gen 13:14-18 • Formal acceptance by Abram – by faith Gen 15:6, Heb 11:8-9, Gal 3:29 • Ratified by YHWH and Yahushua Gen 15:9-18, vs. 17-8 by a smoking furnace (YHWH) and burning lamp (Yahushua) • Deliverables – Gen 17 all 	Gal 3:16-17		0	430
<p>YHWH confirms the covenant promise offering to Abram and he leaves Haran.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginning of 430 years 	Gen 12:1-4	Abram: 75	0	430
<p>Abram’s descendants (your seed) “Then He said to Abram: “Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land <i>that is</i> not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them 400 years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covenant ratified by YHWH. Know certainly is a double emphasis, same H3045 = yahdah repeated twice = certainly for certain or know that you know • Abram’s descendants (his seed) will be afflicted 400 years • Count is from descendants not from Abram • Gen 41:52 - notice “land of my affliction” mentioned by Joseph after the birth of Manasseh and Ephraim during the 7 years of abundance. 	Gen 15:13, Acts 7:6	Abram: 75-85 (no specific date reference)	0-10	430- 420

Abram lived in Canaan 10 years and took Hagar as his wife and she conceives Ishmael	Gen 16:3-4	Abram: 85	10	420
Abram is 86 and Ishmael is born	Gen 16:15-16	Abraham: 86	11	419
Abram receives contract deliverables <ul style="list-style-type: none"> YHWH establishes (H6965=confirm, abide, rise up) the covenant Abram renamed to Abraham (father of a multitude) An everlasting covenant and everlasting possession 	Gen 17:4-10	Abram:99	24	406
Abraham is 100 and Isaac is born. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isaac means laughter 	Gen 21:5	Abraham: 100 Isaac: <1 Ishmael: 14	25	405
Isaac is weaned and Ishmael mocks/persecutes Isaac <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginning of 400 years - Gen 15:13, Acts 7:6 	Gen 21:8-9, Gal 4:29	Abraham: 105 Isaac: 5 Ishmael: 19	30	400
Isaac is 40 and marries Rebekah	Gen 24:1-67, Gen 25:20	Abraham: 140 Isaac: 40	65	365
Isaac is 60, Esau and Jacob are born <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abraham is 160 - 100 (Abraham age when Isaac is born) = 60 Jacob born 85 years after promise to Abraham 	Gen 25:26	Abraham: 160 Esau <1 Jacob <1 Isaac: 60	85	345
Abraham dies at 175 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isaac is 60 years older than Jacob (75-15=60) 	Gen 25:7	Abraham: 175 Isaac: 75 Jacob: 15	100	330
Joseph is born <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Jacob is 121 (when Joseph appointed Prime Minister-see 4th line below) - 30 (Joseph age when appointed Prime minister) = 91 (when Joseph is born although scripturally un-confirmable) 	(Isaac is 60 years older than Jacob)	Isaac: 151 Jacob: 91 Joseph <1	176	254
Joseph is 17, put in the pit, sold by his brothers and taken to Egypt ***	Gen 37:2-27	Isaac: 168 Jacob: 108 Joseph: 17	193	237
Isaac dies at 180. (Jacob born when Isaac was 60) ***	Gen 35:28-29	Isaac: 180 Jacob: 120	205	225
Joseph in Potipher/Pharaoh's house 11 years Joseph in prison 2 years Total 13 years (30 when made Prime Minister - 17 when sold = 13 years) Joseph sold at age 17+13=30, made Prime Minister at 30	Gen 40 all Gen 41-1			

Joseph is 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointed Prime Minister under Pharaoh Gen 41:46 – “when he stood” before Pharaoh from H5975=appoint, be employed, ordain Beginning 7 years of abundance 121 (Jacob) – 30 (Joseph) = 91 (when Joseph is born) 	Gen 41:46	Jacob: 121 (unconfirmable) Joseph: 30	206	224
Joseph identifies himself to his speechless brothers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 years into the famine, 5 years left Joseph is 39 (30+7 years abundance+2 years famine=39) This is 9 years after Gen 41:46 (7 years abundance + 2 years famine) Joseph sends for Jacob – Gen 45:9 Allow 6 months for the trip, Jacob is still 130 Jacob is 91 years older than Joseph (130-39=91) 	Gen 45:4–6 Jasher 58:1 (71-32=39)	Joseph: 39 Jacob: 130	215	215
Jacob arrives in Egypt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jacob is 130 and meets Pharaoh Jacob born 85 years after promise made to Abram 85 (years after promise) + 130 (Jacob’s age) = 215 	Gen 47:9	Jacob: 130	215	215
<i>They left Egypt in the month Xanthicus (Abib), on the fifteenth day of the lunar month; four hundred and thirty years after our forefather Abraham came into Canaan, but two hundred and fifteen years only after Jacob removed into Egypt. It was the eightieth year of the age of Moses, and of that of Aaron three more. They also carried out the bones of Joseph with them, as he had charged his sons to do.</i> Josephus - Antiquities 2.15.2				
Jacob dies at 147 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jacob live 17 years in Egypt (130+17=147) Jacob is 91 years older than Joseph Joseph is 56 (147-91=56) 	Gen 47:28 Gen 49:33	Jacob: 147 Joseph: 56	232	198
Joseph dies at 110 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lived in Egypt 93 years Reigned 80 years 	Gen 50:26 Jasher 59:20-26	Joseph: 110	286	144
From the time Joseph dies to when Moses is born is 64 years (350-286=64)	Ex 6:16–20			
Moses is placed in a basket and taken care of by Pharaoh’s daughter	Ex 2:1-10	Moses: 3 months old	350	80
Moses is 80 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aaron and Moses speak to Pharaoh 430 years of sojourning ends 	Ex 7:7 Ex 12:40–41	Moses: 80	430	0

Other Jasher notes: 66:2, 73:1, 81:3-4

Unrelated Timelines

The Bible identifies several other 400 plus year timeframes that will be highlighted in this section. Although sometimes confused with the 430 year covenant promise, none of the 400 plus years dates in this section are related to the main topic of this paper. They are mentioned here to provide clarity, eliminate confusion and help understand the primary subject material. None of these dates relate directly to the 430 year covenant promise to Abraham.

- 480 Years – This is a reference to the number of years from the Exodus until Solomon began construction of the Temple.

And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Zif, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of YHWH. And the house which king Solomon built for YHWH, the length thereof was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof twenty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits. (1Ki 6:1-2 KJV)

- 490 Years – This is a reference to the 70 weeks prophecy. It is derived from 70 weeks x 7 days = 490 years.

Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. (Dan 9:24-25 KJV)

- 450 Years – This reference is the period of time the Israelites had judges after they entered the promised land.

And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet. And afterward they desired a king: and YHWH gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of forty years. (Acts 13:20-21 KJV)

Conclusion

The 430 year count started when Abraham left Haran when he was 75 years old and ended when Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt. Prior to the fulfillment of YHWH's promise and covenant, the children of Abraham lived temporarily in Canaan, then Egypt, back to Canaan and then back again to Egypt for a final period encompassing 215 years (last half of 430 years). During the first half of the 430 years, Abraham and his family were subjected to famines and harsh living conditions. They lived primarily as strangers in the land of Canaan and were subject to the oppression of the local inhabitants.

The 400 year count starts with the weaning of Isaac and concludes when Moses led the Israelites (family of Abraham) out of Egypt. After Isaac's weaning, the 400 year count runs parallel with the 430 year count; they both end with the exodus from Egypt.

The final 215 years of the 430 year count starts with the time Jacob meets Pharaoh and concludes when Moses is 80 years old and leads the Israelites out of Egypt. It was during the beginning of this period of time Joseph was the Prime Minister, 2nd in command under Pharaoh with tenure of 71 years. The Israelites flourished and became prosperous under Joseph's rule. After Joseph died, a new Pharaoh came into power fearing the affluence that the Israelites enjoyed would lead to bondage for the Egyptians. A program of brutality against the Israelites was initiated by the pharaoh. Without Joseph's leadership, the Israelites became slaves and were seriously oppressed as a result of the power vacuum. During the final 144 years of sojourning in Egypt, the once prosperous Israelites found themselves increasingly exploited, helpless and persecuted by the Egyptian authorities.

As a result, 430 years after the original covenant promise to Abraham (and 400 years after the weaning of Isaac), YHWH freed the Israelites from Egyptian enslavement and delivered their liberty with a spectacular series of miraculous events.

This story has been recorded as a witness of the awesome power of YHWH, the fullness of which is now evident through the redemption we have been offered through the sacrifice of Yahushua Messiah.

Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free. (Gal 4:28-31 KJV)

Summary Timeline

430 Year - Summary Timeline			
Abraham is 75 and enters Canaan, start of 430 year countdown	0	430	215 years sojourning in Egypt and Canaan
Abraham is 100 and Isaac is born	25	405	
Isaac is weaned and mocked, start of 400 year count down	30	400	
Isaac is 60 – Esau and Jacob are born	85	345	
Abraham dies at 175	100	330	
Joseph is born	176	254	
Joseph is made Prime Minister	206	224	
Jacob arrives in Egypt and meets Pharaoh	215	215	215 years in Egypt Josephus - Antiquities 2.15.2
Jacob dies at 147	232	198	
Joseph dies at 110	286	144	
Moses is born and placed under Pharaohs care	350	80	
The Exodus – 430 years later	430	0	