

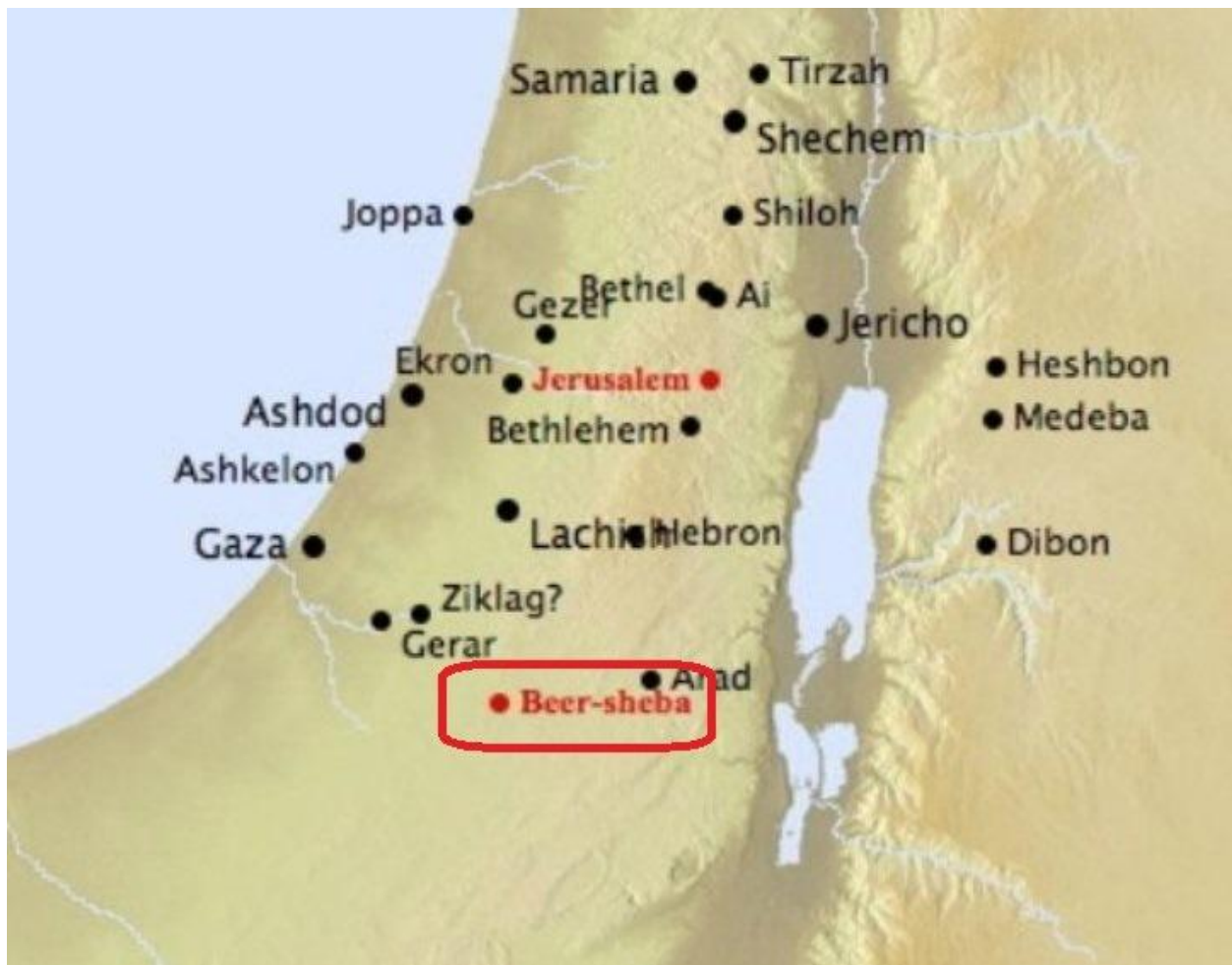
Genesis 46

Verses 1- 4

So Israel set out with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. ² And God spoke to Israel in visions of the night and said, “Jacob, Jacob.” And he said, “Here I am.” ³ Then He said, “I am God, the God of your father; do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make you into a great nation there. ⁴ I will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also assuredly bring you up again; and Joseph will close your eyes.”

So Israel set out with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac.

See Map 4605 Beer-sheba



The text tells us that Jacob went to Beersheba without mentioning where he came from. In chapter 35 Jacob was living in Bethlehem, but that was 34 years ago and He could have moved a number of times during that time period. Beersheba lies at the southern border of Canaan

His father, Isaac, had lived and erected an altar at Beersheba and it's possible that Jacob offered his sacrifices on the altar that Isaac built.

² And God spoke to Israel in visions of the night and said, “Jacob, Jacob.” And he said, “Here I am.” ³ Then He said, “I am God, the God of your father; do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make you into a great nation there.

Jacob had some concerns about going to Egypt, but God appeared to him in a vision and removed that doubt.

God appeared to Jacob 8 times during his life time. The first time was when he was 77 years old and the last time, here in chapter 46, he is 130 years old.

See chart 4605

Ch.	Person	Event	Age	Year
27 - 28	Isaac	blessing	137	1759
27 - 28	Jacob	Trip to Haran	77	1759
29	Jacob	7 years for Rachel	77-84	1752
29 - 30	Jacob	7 years and 11 kids	84-91	1752 - 1745
30	Jacob	Joseph born	91	1745
31	Jacob	6 years for the flocks	97	1739
32-33		Jacob & Esau reunite	97	1739
35	Jacob	Benjamin born	97	1739
37	Joseph	Sold to Ishmaelite's	17	1728
40	Joseph	Cupbearer and Baker	28	1717
35	Isaac	Isaac dies	180	1716
41	Joseph	Pharaoh's dream	30	1715
41	Joseph	Years of plenty	31-37	1714 - 1708
41	Joseph	Years of famine	38-44	1707 - 1701
47	Jacob	5 years of famine left	130	1705
49	Jacob	Jacob dies	147	1689
50	Joseph	Joseph dies	110	1635

⁴ I will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also assuredly bring you up again; and Joseph will close your eyes.”

This had to be a comforting word to Jacob; his beloved son would be there to close his eyes when he died. Jacob will die in 17 years at the age of 147.

Verses 5 - 7

⁵ Then Jacob left Beersheba, and the sons of Israel carried their father Jacob and their little ones and their wives in the wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him. ⁶ They also took their livestock and their possessions, which they had acquired in the land of Canaan, and came to Egypt, Jacob and all his descendants with him: ⁷ his sons and his grandsons with him, his daughters and his granddaughters, and all his descendants he brought with him to Egypt.

The 12 sons are in yellow; his 4 wives are in turquoise.

Verses 8 - 15

⁸ Now these are the names of the sons of Israel, Jacob and his sons, who went to Egypt:

The sons of **Reuben**: Hanoch and Pallu and Hezron and Carmi.

¹⁰ The sons of Simeon: Jemuel and Jamin and Ohad and Jachin and Zohar and Shaul the son of a Canaanite woman.

¹¹ The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

¹² The sons of Judah: Er and Onan and Shelah and Perez and Zerah (but Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan). And the sons of Perez were Hezron and Hamul.

¹³ The sons of Issachar: Tola and Puvvah and Iob and Shimron.

¹⁴ The sons of Zebulun: Sered and Elon and Jahleel.

¹⁵ These are the sons of Leah, whom she bore to Jacob in Paddan-aram, with his daughter Dinah;

all his sons and his daughters numbered thirty-three.

Total = Jacob, 6 sons, 23 grandsons, 2 great grandsons and 1 daughter

Verses 16 - 18

¹⁶ The sons of **Gad**: Ziphion and Haggi, Shuni and Ezbon, Eri and Arodi and Areli.

¹⁷ The sons of **Asher**: Imnah and Ishvah and Ishvi and Beriah and **their sister Serah**. And the sons of Beriah: Heber and Malchiel.

¹⁸ These are the sons of **Zilpah**, whom Laban gave to his daughter Leah; and she bore to Jacob these **sixteen** persons.

Total = 2 sons, 11 grandsons and 2 great grandson and 1 granddaughter

Verses 19 - 22

¹⁹ The sons of Jacob's wife Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin.

²⁰ Now to **Joseph** in the land of Egypt were born Manasseh and Ephraim, whom Asenath, the daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, bore to him.

²¹ The sons of **Benjamin**: Bela and Becher and Ashbel, Gera and Naaman, Ehi and Rosh, Muppim and Huppim and Ard.

²² These are the sons of **Rachel**, who were born to Jacob; *there were* **fourteen** persons in all.

Total = 2 sons and 12 grandsons

Verses 23 - 25

²³ The sons of **Dan**: Hushim.

²⁴ The sons of **Naphtali**: Jahzeel and Guni and Jezer and Shillem.

²⁵ These are the sons of **Bilhah**, whom Laban gave to his daughter Rachel, and she bore these to Jacob; *there were* **seven** persons in all.

Total = 2 sons, 5 grandsons

The 4 lists include,

Jacob, 12 sons, 51 grandsons, 4 great grandsons, 1 daughter and 1 granddaughter

Verses 26 - 27

²⁶ All the persons belonging to Jacob, who came to Egypt, his direct descendants, not including the wives of Jacob's sons, were sixty-six persons in all, ²⁷ and the sons of Joseph, who were born to him in Egypt were two; all the persons of the house of Jacob, who came to Egypt, were seventy.

If you add the 33, 16, 14, and 7 together you get a total of 70

While 70 may be a perfect number according to their way of thinking, this number doesn't reflect the actual number of Hebrews that came to Egypt. This list only includes 1 daughter and 1 granddaughter but in verse 7 it says his daughters and granddaughters.

We don't know for sure how many daughters and granddaughters were left off of these lists but if there were 67 male descendants of Jacob, it seems fair to assume that he had about the same number of daughters and granddaughters.

The intention of this list is to show that there were 70 founders of the Israelite nation because 70 was a number of completeness.

We see the number 70 used a number of times in the bible

1. Seventy nations of the world are listed in Genesis 10
2. Seventy elders are mentioned in Numbers 11:16
3. The days of our years are 70 in Psalms 90:10
4. Seventy translators produced the Septuagint.
5. The Sanhedrin was composed of seventy members.
6. Jesus sent out the "seventy" witnesses of his kingdom.

There were also many others that went to Egypt along with them which were not part of his seed.

1. The wives of Jacob and his son's wives were not included in the 70.
2. Other servants and or employees probably went along.

The group may have included 200 plus people.

The following is a side note concerning the number of people that went to Egypt.

Stephen says that "75 souls went down into Egypt."

See Acts 7:14

¹⁴ Then Joseph sent word and invited his father Jacob and all his relatives to come to him, seventy-five people in all.

He was quoting from the Septuagint, the oldest Greek version of the Old Testament, translated in 250 BC.

There are two good videos concerning this issue.

1. See Video 4610 8.7 How many went down to Egypt

<http://www.levickfamily.com/8.7.html>

2. See video 4615 8.61 The Septuagint

<http://www.levickfamily.com/8.61.html>

Verses 28 – 30

²⁸ Now *Jacob* sent Judah ahead of him to Joseph, to guide him to Goshen; and they came into the land of Goshen. ²⁹ And Joseph prepared his chariot and went up to Goshen to meet his father Israel; as soon as he appeared to him, *Joseph* threw himself on his neck and wept on his neck a long time. ³⁰ Then Israel said to Joseph, "Now let me die, since I have seen your face, that you are still alive."

²⁹ And Joseph prepared his chariot and went up to Goshen to meet his father Israel; as soon as he appeared to him, *Joseph* threw himself on his neck and wept on his neck a long time.

After 25 years of being separated, Joseph and Jacob are finally reunited. Jacob was receiving his favorite son back from the dead. One can only imagine the emotions of this meeting.

Now that Israel knew his son was alive and doing well he expressed his joy by saying he was ready to die.

Verses 31 - 34

³¹ But Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's household, "I will go up and tell Pharaoh, and will say to him, 'My brothers and my father's household, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me; ³² and the men are shepherds, for they have been keepers of livestock; and they have brought their flocks and their herds and all that they have.' ³³ When Pharaoh calls for you and says, 'What is your occupation?' ³⁴ you shall say, 'Your servants have been keepers of livestock since our youth even until now, both we and our fathers,' so that you may live in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians."

³² and the men are shepherds, for they have been keepers of livestock; and they have brought their flocks and their herds and all that they have.

Joseph wanted to break the news to the king that his brothers were shepherds since this was not the best news to report. It would be better coming from Joseph since he had the full trust and good will of the king.

³⁴ you shall say, 'Your servants have been keepers of livestock since our youth even until now, both we and our fathers,' so that you may live in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians."

The Hebrews being unacceptable to the Egyptians was a good thing because it would keep the Hebrew race as pure as possible. We know Judah married a Canaanite and nothing is said about any of the other sons of Jacob going to Haran to find a wife like Isaac and Jacob had done. So it is very likely that they also married woman of Canaan. This is not what God wanted for Israel so being secluded in one area of Egypt was a good thing.