

1	.	How many years did the Israelites actually spend in Egypt?		
a)	Gal. 3:17, B45-46	"...the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after..."	Thus we have the date of the covenant, and the beginning of the four hundred and thirty years, fixed as immediately following Terah's death	430 - 215 = 215
b)	Exodus 12:40-41	Now the length of time the Israelite people lived in Egypt was 430 years. At the end of the 430 years, to the very day, all the LORD's divisions left Egypt.		430
c)	Gen. 15:13	"Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed four hundred years.		400
d)	Gen. 15:16	...Then in the fourth generation they will return here..."		4th Generation
2	.	Gal. 3:17	Is the time period referred to here the introduction of the Covenant (Gen 12), the making of the covenant (Gen 15) or the confirmation of the covenant (final confirmation: Gen 46:1-5)?	Other translations read "introduction" instead of "confirmation". (NIV) Diaglott says "ratified" So does NASV. Would ratification be Gen 15?
Problems with short sojourn theory:				
	1	Ex. 12:40 in the Tanakh reads: "The time the people of Isra'el lived in Egypt was 430 years."		
	2	Gen 15:13 states they would be strangers in a land not theirs for 400 years. Abraham remained in Canaan for the rest of his life (100 years). Isaac also remained in Canaan. When he tried to go down to Egypt, God forbade him (Gen. 26:2-3) Jacob remained in Canaan for 130 years. Half of the time period that they were to be "strangers in a land not theirs" they were in their promised land. Objection: Though they were in the promised land, they did not own it.		
	3	Numbers 1:1-47 tells us that, when the Israelites left Egypt at the Exodus, the total number of Israelite men over age 20 (omitting the tribe of Levi) was 603,550 men (not counting women and children). We can guess that the total people might have been some two million. Genesis 46:8-27 tells us that the total number of men, women and children who entered Egypt with Jacob was 70. If seventy people multiplied to two million in 215 years, the growth rate must have been almost 5% per year, an extremely large figure, but possible. However, if 430 years is available, the rate would be reduced to 2.4% per year, still twice as high as the highest rate achieved for the U.S. at any time during the last 150 years. http://www.ldolphin.org/sewell/sewellchron.html Objection: Ex. 1:7 says that they were fruitful and increased greatly, and multiplied, and became exceedingly mighty so that the land was filled with them. See Ex 1:9-12, 20		

Problems with long sojourn theory

- We're told in Genesis 46:11 that Kohath (son of Levi and grandson of Jacob) was one of the group who moved to Egypt with Jacob. Numbers 26:58-59 says that Kohath was the father of Amran, whose wife was Jochebed, and whose children were Aaron, Moses, and Miriam. Exodus 6:16-20 says that Levi died at age 137, Kohath at 133, and Amran at 137. Moses, of course, was 80 when he led the Israelites out of Egypt. The language of these verses sounds like these are direct father-son relationships. However, the ages given don't allow for more than about 280 years at most for the interval between Kohath's entry into Egypt until the Exodus from Egypt. This argument favors the "short sojourn" of 210 or 215 years.
<http://www.ldolphin.org/sewell/sewellchron.html>
- Not only was Amran the grandson of Levi, but his wife, Jochebed, was the daughter of Levi - who was born in Egypt. Compare Exod. 6:20 with Numb. 26:59 There is no possibility of unmentioned generations in between. However... this still brings us to the problem of the fourth generation....
Ex. 6:20: **Amram married his father's sister Jochebed, and she bore him Aaron and Moses; and the length of Amram's life was one hundred and thirty-seven years.**
Num 26:59: **The name of Amram's wife was Jochebed, the daughter of Levi, who was born to Levi in Egypt; and she bore to Amram: Aaron and Moses and their sister Miriam.**

Year after Covenant	Abraham	Isaac	Jacob	Joseph
0	75	---	---	---
0	75	---	---	---
25	100	0	---	---
85	160	60	0	---
100	175	75	15	
176		151	91	0
193		168	108	17
205		180	120	29
206			121	30
213			128	37
215			130	39
232			147	56
286				110

To Exodus

Event

Recorded

430 Covenant Introduced

Gen 12:1-3, Gen. 13:14-17

430 Covenant Made

Gen 15:1-18

405 Isaac born

Gen 21:5

345 Jacob born

Gen 25:26

330 Abraham dies

Gen 25:7

254 Joseph born

[See explanation, next worksheet](#)

237 Joseph went into Egypt

Gen 37:2

225 Isaac died

Gen 35:28

224 Years of plenty started

Gen 41:46

217 Years of famine started

Gen 41:29-32

215 Jacob & family went into Egypt

Gen 47:9

198 Jacob died

Gen 47:28

144 Joseph died

Gen 50:26

Reference	Event	Jacob's Age	Joseph's Age	
Gen 41:46	Joseph was 30 years old when he stood before Pharaoh		30	
Gen 41:32	The famine was to start quickly and Joseph was set over Egypt		30	
Gen 41:47-54	Seven years of plenty completed, seven-year famine begun		37	
Gen 45:6	Jacob came to Egypt in the second year of the famine		39	
Gen 47:9	Jacob was 130 years old when he came to Egypt	130	39	
	130-39=91 Jacob was 91 when Joseph was born			
	(Note: This was an old age - Esau started marrying at 40!)			
	Presumably Leah and Rachel were much younger.			