

Genesis 47.13-16 and 1 Samuel 8.11-18

Now there was no food in all the land, for the famine was very severe. The land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished because of the famine. **Joseph collected all the silver to be found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan**, in exchange for the grain that they bought; and Joseph brought the silver into Pharaoh's house.

When the silver from the land of Egypt and from the land of Canaan was spent, all the Egyptians came to Joseph, and said, "Give us food! Why should we die before your eyes? For our silver is gone." And Joseph answered, "Give me your livestock, and I will give you food in exchange for your livestock, if your silver is gone." So **they brought their livestock to Joseph**; and Joseph gave them food in exchange for **the horses, the flocks, the herds, and the donkeys**.

*He will take your male and female slaves, and **the best of your cattle and donkeys**, and put them to his work. He will take one-tenth of your **flocks**, (1 Samuel 8.16-17)*

That year he supplied them with food in exchange for all their livestock.

When that year was ended, they came to him the following year, and said to him, "We can not hide from my lord that our silver is all spent; and the herds of cattle are my lord's. There is nothing left in the sight of my lord but our bodies and our lands. Shall we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land in exchange for food. We with our land will become slaves to Pharaoh; just give us seed, so that we may live and not die, and that the land may not become desolate." So **Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh. All the Egyptians sold their fields**, because the famine was severe upon them; **and the land became Pharaoh's**.

*He will take **the best of your fields** and vineyards and olive orchards and **give them to his courtiers**. (1 Samuel 8.14)*

As for the people, **he made slaves of them from one end of Egypt to the other**.

*and **you shall be his slaves**. (1 Samuel 8.17)*

Only the land of the priests he did not buy; for the priests had a fixed allowance from Pharaoh, and lived on the allowance that Pharaoh gave them; therefore they did not sell their land. Then Joseph said to the people, "Now that I have this day bought you and your land for Pharaoh, here is seed for you; sow the land. **And at the harvests you shall give one-fifth to Pharaoh**, and four-fifths shall be your own, as seed for the field and as food for yourselves and your households, and as food for your little ones."

*He will take **one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards...and your flocks** (1 Samuel 8.15, 17)*

They said, "You have saved our lives; may it please my lord, we will be slaves to Pharaoh." So Joseph made it a statute concerning the land of Egypt, and it stands to this day, that Pharaoh should have the fifth. The land of the priests alone did not become Pharaoh's.