

I

ORIGINAL WEALTH

(1) entered Egypt with flocks and herds that multiplied greatly in Goshen

(Gen 47:1, 6, 27)

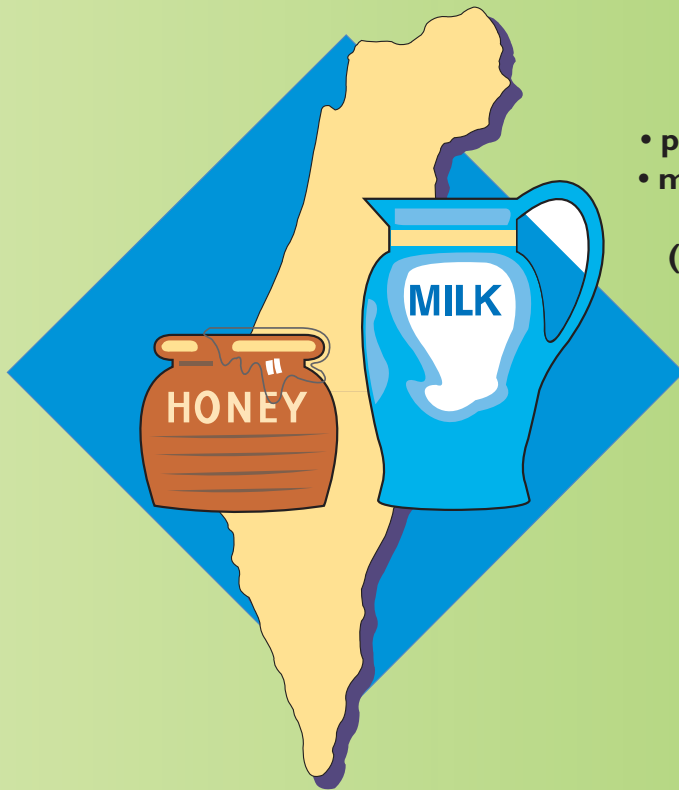
- large droves of livestock at the Exodus—2 to 4 million animals (Exod 12:38; 17:3)

(2) given much silver and gold by the Egyptians at the Exodus

(Exod 11:2–3; 12:35–36)

- payment for forced labor (Exod 1:8–14)
- made into the golden calf (Exod 32:1–4) and drank by the people (32:20)

(3) land grants in Palestine from God



2

DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH

- poor will always be present in the land (Deut 15:11)
- some limits put on personal liberties to protect them from their own economic follies; e.g, the Sabbath, Jubilee
- no economic equality (such as communism, socialism)
- problem is the nature of man (different talents, abilities, health, etc.)
- government controls can't change human nature
- *poverty is the price of economic freedom*

3

LAND RIGHTS

- God owned all the land of Israel (Lev 25:23)
- people had the right of private possession, not private ownership
- original allotment of land to every family—except the Levites (Num 26:52–56, 62)
 - title to the land came from God Himself
- right of inheritance established by God (Num 27:6–11)
 - much freedom in the use of land: farm, rent, mortgage, abandon, or sell with reversionist conditions
- could not permanently surrender the original title (Lev 25:23)