

## ~FOREIGNER (1592)

[Hebrew, *nokh-ri'* or *ben-ne-kar'*, Greek, *bar'ba-ros*]

• Provisions Of The Law Covenant For Foreigners

• Source Of Difficulty

• During the First Century C.E.

• A person of non-Israelite extraction, a Gentile, in Hebrew, *nokh-ri'* or *ben-ne-kar'*, literally, son of a foreign country.

• you must not eat any body already dead. To the alien resident who is inside your gates you may give it, and he must eat it, or there may be a selling of it to a **foreigner**, because you are a holy people to Yehowah your God. You must not boil a kid in its mother's milk. (**Deuteronomy 14:21**)

• And Yehowah went on to say to Moses and Aaron; This is the statute of the Passover. No **foreigner** may eat of it. (**Exodus 12:43**) Footnote

• The **foreigners** among the Hebrews consisted of hired laborers, merchants, captives taken in war, Canaanites not executed or expelled from the Promised Land, and various kinds of transients.

• And the sons of Manasseh did not prove able to take possession of these cities, but the Canaanites persisted in dwelling in this land. (**Joshua 17:12**)

• And it turned out that when the sons of Israel had grown strong, they went putting the Canaanites at forced labor, and they did not dispossess them entirely. (**Joshua 17:13**)

• And the sons of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites inhabiting Jerusalem, but the Jebusites keep on dwelling with the sons of Benjamin in Jerusalem down to this day. (**Judges 1:21**)

• Accordingly David gathered all the people and went to Rabbah and fought against it and captured it. (**2 Samuel 12:29**)

• And he got to take the crown of Malcam off its head, the weight of which was a talent of gold, along with precious stones, and it came to be upon David's head. And the spoil of the city that he

brought out was very much. (2 Samuel 12:30)

- And the people that were in it, he brought out that he might put them at sawing stones and at sharp instruments of iron and at axes of iron, and he made them serve at brickmaking. And that was the way he proceeded to do to all the cities of the sons of Ammon. Finally David and all the people returned to Jerusalem. (2 Samuel 12:31)
- And King Solomon proceeded to send and fetch Hiram out of Tyre. (1 Kings 7:13)
- And the Tyrians themselves dwelt in the city, bringing in fish and every sort of merchandise and making sales on the Sabbath to the sons of Judah and in Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 13:16)
- Although **foreigners** rights were limited by the Law covenant, they were to be treated with justice and fairness and were to receive hospitality as long as they did not flagrantly disobey the laws of the land.
- The **foreigner**, by virtue of his having no real ties with Israel, was distinct from the circumcised proselyte who had come into membership in the congregation of Israel by completely accepting Law covenant responsibilities.
- Similarly, the **foreigner** was different from the settler who had taken up semi-permanent residence in the Promised Land and who, therefore, not only came under certain legal restrictions but also enjoyed certain rights and privileges.

### See Also **ALIEN RESIDENT**

- During the time that the Israelites were alien residents in Canaan and in Egypt, many non-Israelites composed part of the households of the sons of Jacob and their descendants.
- This came about through the hiring of servants who lived with the family and through the purchasing of slaves, who, by the terms of the covenant with Abraham, had to be circumcised.
- And God said further to Abraham; As for you, you are to keep my covenant, you and your seed after you according to their generations. (Genesis 17:9)

- **This is my covenant that you men will keep, between me and you men, even your seed after you. Every male of yours must get circumcised. (Genesis 17:10)**
- **And you must get circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it must serve as a sign of the covenant between me and you. (Genesis 17:11)**
- **And every male of yours eight days old must be circumcised, according to your generations, anyone born in the house and anyone purchased with money from any **foreigner** who is not from your seed. (Genesis 17:12)**
- **Every man born in your house and every man purchased with money of yours must without fail get circumcised, and my covenant in the flesh of you men must serve as a covenant to time indefinite. (Genesis 17:13)**
- **And an uncircumcised male who will not get the flesh of his foreskin circumcised, even that soul must be cut off from his people. He has broken my covenant. (Genesis 17:14)**
- **Some involved in mixed marriages, along with their offspring, were included in the vast mixed company that accompanied the Israelites in the Exodus.**
- **And a vast mixed company also went up with them, as well as flocks and herds, a very numerous stock of animals. (Exodus 12:38)**
- **Now a son of an Israelite woman, who, however, was the son of an Egyptian man, went out into the midst of the sons of Israel, and the son of the Israelitess and an Israelite man began to struggle with each other in the camp. (Leviticus 24:10)**
- **And the mixed crowd that was in the midst of them expressed selfish longing, and the sons of Israel too began to weep again and say; Who will give us meat to eat? (Numbers 11:4)**
- **After Israel settled in the Promised Land, **foreigners**, such as the Canaanites who were not driven out, had to be dealt with.**
- **And for your part, you must not conclude a covenant with the**

- inhabitants of this land. Their altars you should pull down. But you have not listened to my voice. Why have you done this? (Judges 2:2)**
- **So I, in turn, have said; I shall not drive them away from before you, and they must become snares to you, and their gods will serve as a lure to you. (Judges 2:3)**
  - **Merchants and craftsmen also began to travel into the land of Israel.**
  - **And you must say to Tyre, O you who are dwelling at the entrances of the sea, the tradeswoman of the peoples for many islands, this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; O Tyre, you yourself have said; I am perfect in prettiness. (Ezekiel 27:3)**
  - **Judah and the land of Israel themselves were your traders. For the wheat of Minnith and special foodstuff and honey and oil and balsam, your articles of exchange were given. (Ezekiel 27:17)**
  - **And Hiram the king of Tyre proceeded to send messengers to David, and also cedar trees and workers in wood and workers in stone for walls, and they began to build a house for David. (2 Samuel 5:11)**
  - **And now command that they cut for me cedars from Lebanon, and my servants themselves will prove to be with your servants, and the wages of your servants I shall give to you according to all that you may say; For you yourself well know that there is among us no one knowing how to cut trees like the Sidonians. (1 Kings 5:6)**
  - **And it came about that as soon as Hiram heard the words of Solomon, he began to rejoice greatly, and he went on to say; Blessed is Yehowah today in that he has given David a wise son over this numerous people! (1 Kings 5:7)**
  - **Accordingly Hiram sent to Solomon, saying; I have heard what you sent to me. For my part, I shall do all your delight in the matter of timbers of cedar trees and timbers of juniper trees. (1 Kings 5:8)**
  - **My servants themselves will bring them down out of Lebanon to**

- the sea, and I, for my part, shall put them in log rafts to go by sea clear to the place that you will send me notice of, and I shall certainly have them broken up there, and you, for your part, will carry them, and you, for your part, will do my delight by giving the food for my household. (1 Kings 5:9)**
- **So Hiram became a giver of timbers of cedar trees and timbers of juniper trees to Solomon according to all his delight. (1 Kings 5:10)**
  - **And Solomon, for his part, gave Hiram twenty thousand cor measures of wheat as food supplies for his household and twenty cor measures of beaten-out oil. That was what Solomon kept giving Hiram year by year. (1 Kings 5:11)**
  - **And Yehowah, for his part, gave Solomon wisdom, just as he had promised him, and there came to be peace between Hiram and Solomon, and both of them proceeded to conclude a covenant. (1 Kings 5:12)**
  - **And King Solomon kept bringing up those conscripted for forced labor out of all Israel, and those conscripted for forced labor amounted to thirty thousand men. (1 Kings 5:13)**
  - **And he would send them to Lebanon in shifts of ten thousand a month. For a month they would continue in Lebanon, for two months at their homes, and Adoniram was over those conscripted for forced labor. (1 Kings 5:14)**
  - **And Solomon came to have seventy thousand burden bearers and eighty thousand cutters in the mountain. (1 Kings 5:15)**
  - **Besides Solomon's princely deputies who were over the work, three thousand three hundred foremen over the people who were active in the work. (1 Kings 5:16)**
  - **Accordingly the king commanded that they should quarry great stones, expensive stones, to lay the foundation of the house with hewn stones. (1 Kings 5:17)**
  - **So Solomon's builders and Hiram's builders and the Gebalites did the cutting, and they kept preparing the timbers and the stones to build the house. (1 Kings 5:18)**

- Likely hired laborers accumulated as the Israelites grew more prosperous in developing the Promised Land.
- Watch out for yourself that you may not forget Yehowah your God so as not to keep his commandments and his judicial decisions and his statutes that I am commanding you today. (Deuteronomy 8:11)
- For fear that you may eat and indeed satisfy yourself, and you may build good houses and indeed dwell in them. (Deuteronomy 8:12)
- And your herd and your flock may increase, and silver and gold may increase for you, and all that is yours may increase. (Deuteronomy 8:13)
- And no stranger at all may eat anything holy. No settler with a priest nor a hired laborer may eat anything holy. (Leviticus 22:10)
- **Foreigners** began to be attached to the Israelite armies, and in doing so, they developed an esteem for their Hebrew leaders and a respect for the Israelite religion, as in the cases of the Gittites, the Cherethites, and the Pelethites.
- And all his servants were crossing at his side, and all the Cherethites and all the Pelethites and all the Gittites, six hundred men that had followed him from Gath, were crossing before the king's face. (2 Samuel 15:18)
- Then the king said to Ittai the Gittite; Why should you yourself also go with us? Go back and dwell with the king, for you are a **foreigner** and, besides, you are an exile from your place. (2 Samuel 15:19)
- Yesterday was when you came and today shall I make you wander with us, to go when I am going wherever I am going? Go back and take your brothers back with you, and may Yehowah exercise toward you loving-kindness and trustworthiness! (2 Samuel 15:20)
- But Ittai answered the king and said; As Yehowah is living and as my lord the king is living, in the place where my lord the king may come to be, whether for death or for life, there is where

your servant will come to be! (2 Samuel 15:21)

## · Provisions Of The Law Covenant For Foreigners

- In the Law covenant Yehowah provided basic legislation to regulate dealings with **foreigners** and to protect the Israelite commonwealth and the integrity of its citizens and dependents economically as well as religiously and politically. The Israelites were not to have any fellowship, especially religiously, with the **foreigners**
- For my angel will go ahead of you and will indeed bring you to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, and I shall certainly efface them. (Exodus 23:23)
- You must not bow down to their gods or be induced to serve them, and you must not make anything like their works, but you will without fail throw them down and you will without fail break down their sacred pillars. (Exodus 23:24)
- And you must serve Yehowah your God, and he will certainly bless your bread and your water, and I shall indeed turn malady away from your midst. (Exodus 23:25)
- And you must consume all the peoples whom Yehowah your God is giving to you. Your eye must not feel sorry for them, and you must not serve their gods, because that will be a snare to you. (Deuteronomy 7:16)
- In case you say in your heart; These nations are too populous for me. How shall I be able to drive them away? (Deuteronomy 7:17)
- You must not be afraid of them. You should by all means remember what Yehowah your God did to Pharaoh and all Egypt. (Deuteronomy 7:18)
- The great provings that your eyes saw, and the signs and the miracles and the strong hand and the outstretched arm with which Yehowah your God brought you out. That is the way Yehowah your God will do to all the peoples before whom you are afraid. (Deuteronomy 7:19)
- And Yehowah your God will also send the feeling of dejection

upon them, until those perish who were let remain and who were concealing themselves from before you. ([Deuteronomy 7:20](#))

- You must not suffer a shock because of them, for Yehowah your God is in your midst, a great and fear-inspiring God. ([Deuteronomy 7:21](#))
- And Yehowah your God will certainly push these nations away from before you little by little. You will not be allowed to finish them off quickly, for fear the wild beasts of the field may multiply against you. ([Deuteronomy 7:22](#))
- And Yehowah your God will indeed abandon them to you and rout them with a great rout, until they are annihilated. ([Deuteronomy 7:23](#))
- And he will certainly give their kings into your hand, and you must destroy their names from under the heavens. Nobody will take a firm stand against you, until you have exterminated them. ([Deuteronomy 7:24](#))
- The graven images of their gods you should burn in the fire. You must not desire the silver and the gold upon them, nor indeed take it for yourself, for fear you may be ensnared by it, for it is a thing detestable to Yehowah your God. ([Deuteronomy 7:25](#))
- And you must not bring a detestable thing into your house and actually become a thing devoted to destruction like it. You should thoroughly loathe it and absolutely detest it, because it is something devoted to destruction. ([Deuteronomy 7:26](#))
- And you must be very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the Law of Moses by never turning away from it to the right or to the left. ([Joshua 23:6](#))
- By never going in among these nations, these that remain with you. And you must not mention the names of their gods nor swear by them, neither must you serve them nor bow down to them. ([Joshua 23:7](#))
- And they were not to conclude any covenants with them or their gods.
- Watch yourself that you do not conclude a covenant with the



inhabitants of the land to which you are going, for fear it may prove itself a snare in your midst. (**Exodus 34:12**)

- But their altars you people are to pull down, and their sacred pillars you are to shatter, and their sacred poles you are to cut down. (**Exodus 34:13**)
- For you must not prostrate yourself to another god, because Yehowah, whose name is Jealous, he is a jealous God. (**Exodus 34:14**)
- For fear that you may conclude a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, as they will certainly have immoral intercourse with their gods and sacrifice to their gods, and someone will be certain to invite you, and you will certainly eat some of his sacrifice. (**Exodus 34:15**)
- You are not to conclude a covenant with them or their gods. (**Exodus 23:32**)
- And Yehowah your God will certainly abandon them to you, and you must defeat them. You should without fail devote them to destruction. You must conclude no covenant with them nor show them any favor. (**Deuteronomy 7:2**)
- Time and again Yehowah stressed the absolute need not to bow down to the gods of the **foreigners**.
- You must not have any other gods against my face. (**Exodus 20:3**)
- You must not make for yourself a carved image or a form like anything that is in the heavens above or that is on the earth underneath or that is in the waters under the earth. (**Exodus 20:4**)
- You must not bow down to them nor be induced to serve them, because I Yehowah your God am a God exacting exclusive devotion, bringing punishment for the error of fathers upon sons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation, in the case of those who hate me. (**Exodus 20:5**)
- But exercising loving-kindness toward the thousandth generation in the case of those who love me and keep my

commandments. (**Exodus 20:6**)

- You must not take up the name of Yehowah your God in a worthless way, for Yehowah will not leave the one unpunished who takes up his name in a worthless way. (**Exodus 20:7**)
- And I will fix your boundary from the Red Sea to the sea of the Philistines and from the wilderness to the River, because I shall give into your hand the inhabitants of the land, and you will certainly drive them out from before yourself. (**Exodus 23:31**)
- You are not to conclude a covenant with them or their gods. (**Exodus 23:32**)
- They should not dwell in your land, that they may not cause you to sin against me. In case you should serve their gods, it would become a snare to you. (**Exodus 23:33**)
- For you must not prostrate yourself to another god, because Yehowah, whose name is Jealous, he is a jealous God. (**Exodus 34:14**)
- Nor were they even to inquire into, or interest themselves in, their religious practices.
- When Yehowah your God will cut off from before you the nations to whom you are going to dispossess them, you must also dispossess them and dwell in their land. (**Deuteronomy 12:29**)
- Watch out for yourself for fear you may be entrapped after them, after they have been annihilated from before you, and for fear you may inquire respecting their gods, saying; How was it these nations used to serve their gods? And I, yes, I, will do the same way. (**Deuteronomy 12:30**)
- You must not do that way to Yehowah your God, for everything detestable to Yehowah that he does hate they have done to their gods, for even their sons and their daughters they regularly burn in the fire to their gods. (**Deuteronomy 12:31**)
- Marriage alliances with **foreigners** were prohibited, primarily because of the danger of corruption of pure worship.
- Then you will have to take some of their daughters for your sons,

- and their daughters will be certain to have immoral intercourse with their gods and make your sons have immoral intercourse with their gods. (**Exodus 34:16**)
- **And you must form no marriage alliance with them. Your daughter you must not give to his son, and his daughter you must not take for your son. (**Deuteronomy 7:3**)**
  - **And he will certainly give their kings into your hand, and you must destroy their names from under the heavens. Nobody will take a firm stand against you, until you have exterminated them. (**Deuteronomy 7:24**)**
  - **But if you should turn back at all and you do cleave to what is left of these nations, these that remain with you, and you do form marriage alliances with them and go in among them, and they among you. (**Joshua 23:12**)**
  - **You should positively know that Yehowah your God will not continue to dispossess these nations on your account, and they must become to you as a trap and as a snare and as a scourge on your flanks and as thorns in your eyes until you have perished off this good ground that Yehowah your God has given you. (**Joshua 23:13**)**
  - **All inhabitants of cities of the seven Canaanite nations were to be destroyed.**
  - **That is the way you will do to all the cities very far away from you that are not of the cities of these nations. (**Deuteronomy 20:15**)**
  - **It is only of the cities of these peoples that Yehowah your God is giving you as an inheritance that you must not preserve any breathing thing alive. (**Deuteronomy 20:16**)**
  - **Because you should without fail devote them to destruction, the Hittites and the Amorites, the Canaanites and the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, just as Yehowah your God has commanded you. (**Deuteronomy 20:17**)**
  - **In order, that they may not teach you to do according to all their detestable things, which they have done to their gods, and you may indeed sin against Yehowah your God. (**Deuteronomy 20:18**)**

- **But in the capture of a city not of the seven proscribed Canaanite nations, an Israelite soldier could take a virgin from the city as a wife after she had undergone a period of purification.**
- **In such cases no actual alliance would be formed with a foreign tribe or family, her parents having been slain when her city was taken.**
- **In case you go out to the battle against your enemies and Yehowah your God has given them into your hand and you have carried them away captive. (Deuteronomy 21:10)**
- **And you have seen among the captives a woman beautiful in form, and you have got attached to her and taken her for your wife. (Deuteronomy 21:11)**
- **You must then bring her into the midst of your house. She must now shave her head and attend to her nails. (Deuteronomy 21:12)**
- **And remove the mantle of her captivity from off her and dwell in your house and weep for her father and her mother a whole lunar month, and after that you should have relations with her, and you must take possession of her as your bride, and she must become your wife. (Deuteronomy 21:13)**
- **And it must occur that if you have found no delight in her, you must then send her away, agreeably to her own soul, but you must by no means sell her for money. You must not deal tyrannically with her after you have humiliated her. (Deuteronomy 21:14)**
- **And now kill every male among the little ones, and kill every woman who has had intercourse with man by lying with a male. (Numbers 31:17)**
- **And preserve alive for yourselves all the little ones among the women who have not known the act of lying with a male. (Numbers 31:18)**
- **Only the women and the little children and the domestic animals and everything that happens to be in the city, all its spoil you will plunder for yourself, and you must eat the spoil of your enemies, whom Yehowah your God has given to you. (Deuteronomy 20:14)**

- **An additional restriction was that no uncircumcised **foreigner** could eat of the Passover.**
- **And Yehowah went on to say to Moses and Aaron; This is the statute of the Passover. No **foreigner** may eat of it. (Exodus 12:43)**
- **It appears, however, that **foreigners** could offer sacrifices through the priestly arrangement, provided the offering itself conformed to divine standards.**
- **And any of all these from the hand of a **foreigner** you must not present as the bread of your God, because their corruption is in them. There is a defect in them. They will not be accepted with approval of you. (Leviticus 22:25)**
- **Of course, such persons could never come into the sanctuary.**
- **This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; No **foreigner**, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, may come into my sanctuary, that is, any foreigner who is in the midst of the sons of Israel. (Ezekiel 44:9)**
- **But they could come to Jerusalem and pray toward God's house, and they would likely not do so empty-handed, that is, without an accompanying sacrificial offering.**
- **And also to the **foreigner**, who is no part of your people Israel and who actually comes from a distant land by reason of your name (1 Kings 8:41)**
- **For they shall hear of your great name and of your strong hand and of your stretched-out arm, and he actually comes and prays toward this house. (1 Kings 8:42)**
- **May you yourself listen from the heavens, your established place of dwelling, and you must do according to all that for which the **foreigner** calls to you, in order, that all the peoples of the earth may get to know your name so as to fear you the same as your people Israel do, and so as to know that your name itself has been called upon this house that I have built. (1 Kings 8:43)**

- In governmental matters, the **foreigner** had no political status and could never become a king.
- You should without fail set over yourself a king whom Yehowah your God will choose. From among your brothers you should set a king over yourself. You will not be allowed to put over yourself a **foreigner** who is not your brother. (**Deuteronomy 17:15**)
- Though the Israelite, the alien resident, and settler in the land could take advantage of the sanctuary provided for the unintentional manslayer in the cities of refuge, there is no mention of such provision for the **foreigner**.
- For the sons of Israel and for the alien resident and for the settler in the midst of them these six cities will serve as a refuge, for anyone to flee there that fatally strikes a soul unintentionally. (**Numbers 35:15**)
- These became the cities appointed for all the sons of Israel and for the alien resident who resides as an alien in their midst, for anyone to flee there who fatally strikes a soul unintentionally, that he may not die by the hand of the avenger of blood until his standing before the assembly. (**Joshua 20:9**)
- Although Israelites were forbidden to eat an animal that had died without the blood being drained, it could legally be sold to a **foreigner**.
- You must not eat any body already dead. To the alien resident who is inside your gates you may give it, and he must eat it, or there may be a selling of it to a **foreigner**, because you are a holy people to Yehowah your God. You must not boil a kid in its mother's milk. (**Deuteronomy 14:21**)
- During Sabbath years the Israelite could not be pressed for payment of debts, but the **foreigner** was not under this arrangement and could be pressed for payment.
- At the end of every seven years you should make a release. (**Deuteronomy 15:1**)
- And this is the manner of the release. There will be a releasing by every creditor of the debt that he may let his fellow incur. He should not press his fellow or his brother for payment, because a release to Yehowah must be called. (**Deuteronomy 15:2**)

- The **foreigner** you may press for payment, but whatever of yours may prove to be with your brother let your hand release. (**Deuteronomy 15:3**)
- Although a fellow Israelite was not to be charged interest, the **foreigner** could be so charged.
- You may make a **foreigner** pay interest, but your brother you must not make pay interest, in order, that Yehowah your God may bless you in every undertaking of yours on the land to which you are going so as to take possession of it. (**Deuteronomy 23:20**)

#### •• Source Of Difficulty

- During Joshua's time and the period of the Judges that followed, many **foreigners** were in the land and were a source of constant difficulty.
- But if you should turn back at all and you do cleave to what is left of these nations, these that remain with you, and you do form marriage alliances with them and go in among them, and they among you. (**Joshua 23:12**)
- You should positively know that Yehowah your God will not continue to dispossess these nations on your account, and they must become to you as a trap and as a snare and as a scourge on your flanks and as thorns in your eyes until you have perished off this good ground that Yehowah your God has given you. (**Joshua 23:13**)
- The Canaanite **foreigners** who remained after the Israelite conquest became subject to slavish forced labor.
- And they did not drive away the Canaanites who were dwelling in Gezer, and the Canaanites continue dwelling in among Ephraim down to this day and came to be subject to slavish forced labor. (**Joshua 16:10**)
- And it turned out that when the sons of Israel had grown strong, they went putting the Canaanites at forced labor, and they did not dispossess them entirely. (**Joshua 17:13**)

- **And the sons of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites inhabiting Jerusalem, but the Jebusites keep on dwelling with the sons of Benjamin in Jerusalem down to this day. (Judges 1:21)**
- **And Manasseh did not take possession of Beth-shean and its dependent towns and Taanach and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of Dor and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of Ibleam and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of Megiddo and its dependent towns, but the Canaanites persisted in dwelling in this land. (Judges 1:27)**
- **And it came about that Israel grew strong and proceeded to set the Canaanites to forced labor, and they did not drive them out completely. (Judges 1:28)**
- **Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites who were dwelling in Gezer, but the Canaanites continued to dwell in among them in Gezer. (Judges 1:29)**
- **Zebulun did not drive out the inhabitants of Kitron and the inhabitants of Nahalol, but the Canaanites continued to dwell in among them and came to be subject to forced labor. (Judges 1:30)**
- **Asher did not drive out the inhabitants of Acco and the inhabitants of Sidon and Ahlab and Achzib and Helbah and Aphik and Rehob. (Judges 1:31)**
- **And the Asherites continued to dwell in among the Canaanites inhabiting the land, because they did not drive them out. (Judges 1:32)**
- **Naphtali did not drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh and the inhabitants of Beth-anath, but they continued to dwell in among the Canaanites inhabiting the land, and the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh and of Beth-anath became theirs for forced labor. (Judges 1:33)**
- **And the Amorites kept pressing the sons of Dan into the mountainous region, for they did not allow them to come down into the low plain. (Judges 1:34)**
- **So the Amorites persisted in dwelling in Mount Heres and in**



- Aijalon and Shaalbim. But the hand of the house of Joseph got to be so heavy that they were forced into task work. (**Judges 1:35**)
- **But because the Israelites did not drive them from the land and eradicate their worship as Yehowah had commanded.**
  - **Then Yehowah's angel went up from Gilgal to Bochim and said; I proceeded to bring you up out of Egypt and to bring you into the land about which I swore to your forefathers. Furthermore, I said; Never shall I break my covenant with you. (**Judges 2:1**)**
  - **And for your part, you must not conclude a covenant with the inhabitants of this land. Their altars you should pull down. But you have not listened to my voice. Why have you done this? (**Judges 2:2**)**
  - **The Canaanites in general continued to practice their idolatrous and degraded religions. As a result the Israelites were continually being led into false worship**
  - **They did not annihilate the peoples, as Yehowah had said to them. (**Psalms 106:34**)**
  - **And they went mingling with the nations and took up learning their works. (**Psalms 106:35**)**
  - **And they kept serving their idols, and these came to be a snare to them. (**Psalms 106:36**)**
  - **And they would sacrifice their sons and their daughters to demons. (**Psalms 106:37**)**
  - **So they kept spilling innocent blood, the blood of their sons and their daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land came to be polluted with bloodshed. (**Psalms 106:38**)**
  - **And they got to be unclean by their works and kept having immoral intercourse by their dealings. (**Psalms 106:39**)**
  - **Particularly the worship of the Baals and the Ashtoreth images.**
  - **And the sons of Israel fell to doing what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah and serving the Baals. (**Judges 2:11**)**

- Thus they abandoned Yehowah the God of their fathers who had brought them out of the land of Egypt and went following other gods from among the gods of the peoples who were all around them and they began bowing down to them, so that they offended Yehowah. (**Judges 2:12**)
- Thus they abandoned Yehowah and took up serving Baal and the Ashtoreth images. (**Judges 2:13**)
- These Canaanitish **foreigners** continued to be found in Israel down through David's time to the reign of Solomon, when they were still being put to forced labor on the temple and Solomon's other building projects.
- As for all the people remaining over from the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, who were no part of the sons of Israel. (**1 Kings 9:20**)
- Their sons who had been left over after them in the land whom the sons of Israel had been unable to devote to destruction, Solomon kept levying them for slavish forced labor until this day. (**1 Kings 9:21**)

### **See Also FORCED LABOR**

- Contrary to divine command, Solomon took many **foreign** wives, who gradually turned his heart away from the pure worship of Yehowah to that of **foreign** gods.
- And King Solomon himself loved many **foreign** wives along with the daughter of Pharaoh, Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian and Hittite women. (**1 Kings 11:1**)
- From the nations of whom Yehowah had said to the sons of Israel; You must not go in among them, and they themselves should not come in among you. Truly they will incline your heart to follow their gods. It was to them that Solomon clung to love them. (**1 Kings 11:2**)
- And he came to have seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines, and his wives gradually inclined his heart. (**1 Kings 11:3**)
- And it came about in the time of Solomon's growing old that his

- wives themselves had inclined his heart to follow other gods, and his heart did not prove to be complete with Yehowah his God like the heart of David his father. (**1 Kings 11:4**)
- **And Solomon began going after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians and after Milcom the disgusting thing of the Ammonites. (**1 Kings 11:5**)**
  - **And Solomon began to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, and he did not follow Yehowah fully like David his father. (**1 Kings 11:6**)**
  - **It was then that Solomon proceeded to build a high place to Chemosh the disgusting thing of Moab on the mountain that was in front of Jerusalem, and to Molech the disgusting thing of the sons of Ammon. (**1 Kings 11:7**)**
  - **And that was the way he did for all his foreign wives who were making sacrificial smoke and sacrificing to their gods. (**1 Kings 11:8**)**
  - **Intrusion of false religion at the highest governmental level had fatal repercussions. It resulted in the splitting of the nation and eventual exile in Babylon as successive kings, both of Judah and of Israel, led the people into false worship.**
  - **This culminated in the fulfillment on the nation of the maledictions that were foretold as inescapable sanctions for violations of the Law.**
  - **And Yehowah came to be incensed at Solomon, because his heart had inclined away from Yehowah the God of Israel, the one appearing to him twice. (**1 Kings 11:9**)**
  - **And respecting this thing he commanded him not to go after other gods, but he had not kept that which Yehowah had commanded. (**1 Kings 11:10**)**
  - **Yehowah now said to Solomon; For the reason that this has taken place with you and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes that I laid in command upon you, I shall without fail rip the kingdom away from off you, and I shall certainly give it to your servant. (**1 Kings 11:11**)**

- **In the fifty-second year of Azariah the king of Judah, Pekah the son of Remaliah became king over Israel in Samaria for twenty years. (2 Kings 15:27)**
- **And he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes. He did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he caused Israel to sin. (2 Kings 15:28)**
- **In the twelfth year of Ahaz the king of Judah, Hoshea the son of Elah became king in Samaria over Israel for nine years. (2 Kings 17:1)**
- **And he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, only not as the kings of Israel that happened to be prior to him. (2 Kings 17:2)**
- **Twenty-five years old was Jehoiakim when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebidah the daughter of Pedaiah from Rumah. (2 Kings 23:36)**
- **And he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, according to all that forefathers of his had done. (2 Kings 23:37)**
- **Twenty-one years old was Zedekiah when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah from Libnah. (2 Kings 24:18)**
- **And he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, according to all that Jehoiakim had done. (2 Kings 24:19)**
- **And it must occur that if you will not listen to the voice of Yehowah your God by taking care to do all his commandments and his statutes that I am commanding you today, all these maledictions must also come upon you and overtake you: (Deuteronomy 28:15)**
- **Cursed will you be in the city, and cursed will you be in the field. (Deuteronomy 28:16)**
- **Cursed will be your basket and your kneading trough. (Deuteronomy 28:17)**

- **Cursed will be the fruit of your belly and the fruitage of your ground, the young of your cattle and the progeny of your flock. (Deuteronomy 28:18)**
- **Cursed will you be when you come in, and cursed will you be when you go out. (Deuteronomy 28:19)**
- **Yehowah will send upon you the curse, confusion and rebuke in every undertaking of yours that you try to carry out, until you have been annihilated and have perished in a hurry, because of the badness of your practices in that you have forsaken me. (Deuteronomy 28:20)**
- **Yehowah will cause the pestilence to cling to you until he has exterminated you from off the ground to which you are going to take possession of it. (Deuteronomy 28:21)**
- **Yehowah will strike you with tuberculosis and burning fever and inflammation and feverish heat and the sword and scorching and mildew, and they will certainly pursue you until you have perished. (Deuteronomy 28:22)**
- **Your skies that are over your head must also become copper, and the earth that is beneath you iron. (Deuteronomy 28:23)**
- **Yehowah will give powder and dust as the rain of your land. From the heavens it will come down upon you until you have been annihilated. (Deuteronomy 28:24)**
- **Yehowah will cause you to be defeated before your enemies. By one way you will go out against them, but by seven ways you will flee before them, and you must become a frightful object to all the earth's kingdoms. (Deuteronomy 28:25)**
- **And your dead body must become food for every flying creature of the heavens and to the beast of the field, with no one to make them tremble. (Deuteronomy 28:26)**
- **Yehowah will strike you with the boil of Egypt and piles and eczema and skin eruption, from which you will not be able to be healed. (Deuteronomy 28:27)**
- **Yehowah will strike you with madness and loss of sight and bewilderment of heart. (Deuteronomy 28:28)**

- **And you will indeed become one who gropes about at midday, just as a blind man gropes about in the gloom, and you will not make your ways successful, and you must become only one who is always defrauded and robbed, with no one to save you. (Deuteronomy 28:29)**
- **You will become engaged to a woman, but another man will rape her. You will build a house, but you will not dwell in it. You will plant a vineyard, but you will not begin to use it. (Deuteronomy 28:30)**
- **Your bull slaughtered there before your eyes, but you will not eat any of it. Your ass taken in robbery from before your face, but it will not return to you. Your sheep given to your enemies, but you will have no savior. (Deuteronomy 28:31)**
- **Your sons and your daughters given to another people and your eyes looking on and yearning for them always, but your hands will be without power. (Deuteronomy 28:32)**
- **The fruitage of your ground and all your production a people will eat whom you have not known, and you must become one who is only defrauded and crushed always. (Deuteronomy 28:33)**
- **And you will certainly become maddened at the sight of your eyes that you will see. (Deuteronomy 28:34)**
- **Yehowah will strike you with a malignant boil upon both knees and both legs, from which you will not be able to be healed, from the sole of your foot to the crown of your head. (Deuteronomy 28:35)**
- **Yehowah will march you and your king whom you will set up over you to a nation whom you have not known, neither you nor your forefathers, and there you will have to serve other gods, of wood and of stone. (Deuteronomy 28:36)**
- **And you must become an object of astonishment, a proverbial saying and a taunt among all the peoples to whom Yehowah will lead you away. (Deuteronomy 28:37)**
- **A lot of seed you will take out to the field, but little will you gather, because the locust will devour it. (Deuteronomy 28:38)**

- **Vineyards you will plant and certainly cultivate, but you will drink no wine and gather nothing in, because the worm will eat it up. (Deuteronomy 28:39)**
- **You will come to have olive trees in all your territory, but you will rub yourself with no oil, because your olives will drop off. (Deuteronomy 28:40)**
- **Sons and daughters you will bring forth, but they will not continue yours, because they will go off into captivity. (Deuteronomy 28:41)**
- **All your trees and the fruitage of your ground whirring insects will take in possession. (Deuteronomy 28:42)**
- **The alien resident who is in your midst will keep ascending higher and higher above you, while you, you will keep descending lower and lower. (Deuteronomy 28:43)**
- **He will be the one to lend to you, while you, you will not lend to him. He will become the head, while you, you will become the tail. (Deuteronomy 28:44)**
- **And all these maledictions will certainly come upon you and pursue you and overtake you until you have been annihilated, because you did not listen to the voice of Yehowah your God by keeping his commandments and his statutes that he commanded you. (Deuteronomy 28:45)**
- **And they must continue on you and your offspring as a sign and a portent to time indefinite. (Deuteronomy 28:46)**
- **Due to the fact that you did not serve Yehowah your God with rejoicing and joy of heart for the abundance of everything. (Deuteronomy 28:47)**
- **And you will have to serve your enemies whom Yehowah will send against you with hunger and thirst and nakedness and the want of everything, and he will certainly put an iron yoke upon your neck until he has annihilated you. (Deuteronomy 28:48)**
- **Yehowah will raise up against you a nation far away, from the end of the earth, just as an eagle pounces, a nation whose**

tongue you will not understand. (**Deuteronomy 28:49**)

- **A nation fierce in countenance, who will not be partial to an old man or show favor to a young man. (**Deuteronomy 28:50**)**
- **And they will certainly eat the fruit of your domestic animals and the fruitage of your ground until you have been annihilated, and they will let no grain, new wine or oil, no young of your cattle or progeny of your flock, remain for you until they have destroyed you. (**Deuteronomy 28:51**)**
- **And they will indeed besiege you within all your gates until your high and fortified walls in which you are trusting fall in all your land, yes, they will certainly besiege you within all your gates in all your land, which Yehowah your God has given you. (**Deuteronomy 28:52**)**
- **Then you will have to eat the fruit of your belly, the flesh of your sons and your daughters, whom Yehowah your God has given you, because of the tightness and stress with which your enemy will hem you in. (**Deuteronomy 28:53**)**
- **As for the very delicate and dainty man among you, his eye will be evil-inclined toward his brother and his cherished wife and the remainder of his sons whom he has remaining. (**Deuteronomy 28:54**)**
- **So as not to give one of them any of the flesh of his sons that he will eat, because he has nothing at all remaining to him because of the tightness and stress with which your enemy will hem you in within all your gates. (**Deuteronomy 28:55**)**
- **As for the delicate and dainty woman among you who never attempted to set the sole of her foot upon the earth for being of dainty habit and for delicateness, her eye will be evil-inclined toward her cherished husband and her son and her daughter. (**Deuteronomy 28:56**)**
- **Even toward her afterbirth that comes out from between her legs and toward her sons whom she proceeded to bear, because she will eat them in secrecy for the want of everything because of the tightness and stress with which your enemy will hem you in within your gates. (**Deuteronomy 28:57**)**



- **If you will not take care to carry out all the words of this Law that are written in this book so as to fear this glorious and fear-inspiring name, even Yehowah, your God. (Deuteronomy 28:58)**
- **Yehowah also will certainly make your plagues and the plagues of your offspring especially severe, great and long-lasting plagues, and malignant and long-lasting sicknesses. (Deuteronomy 28:59)**
- **And he will indeed bring back upon you all the diseases of Egypt before which you got scared, and they will certainly hang onto you. (Deuteronomy 28:60)**
- **Also, any sickness and any plague that is not written in the book of this law, Yehowah will bring them upon you until you have been annihilated. (Deuteronomy 28:61)**
- **And you will indeed be left with very few in number, although you have become like the stars of the heavens for multitude, because you did not listen to the voice of Yehowah your God. (Deuteronomy 28:62)**
- **And it must occur that just as Yehowah exulted over you to do you good and to multiply you, so Yehowah will exult over you to destroy you and to annihilate you, and you will simply be torn away from off the soil to which you are going to take possession of it. (Deuteronomy 28:63)**
- **And Yehowah will certainly scatter you among all the peoples from the one end of the earth to the other end of the earth, and there you will have to serve other gods whom you have not known, neither you nor your forefathers, wood and stone. (Deuteronomy 28:64)**
- **And among those nations you will have no ease, nor will there prove to be any resting-place for the sole of your foot, and Yehowah will indeed give you there a trembling heart and a failing of the eyes and despair of soul. (Deuteronomy 28:65)**
- **And you will certainly be in the greatest peril for your life and be in dread night and day, and you will not be sure of your life. (Deuteronomy 28:66)**
- **In the morning you will say; If it only were evening! And in the**

- evening you will say; If it only were morning! Because of the dread of your heart with which you will be in dread and because of the sight of your eyes that you will see. (**Deuteronomy 28:67**)
- **And Yehowah will certainly bring you back to Egypt by ships by the way about which I have said to you, You will never see it again, and you will have to sell yourselves there to your enemies as slave men and maidservants, but there will be no buyer. (**Deuteronomy 28:68**)**
  - **Following restoration of a faithful remnant of Israelites from the exile in Babylon, many Israelites took **foreign** wives for themselves.**
  - **And as soon as these things were finished, the princes approached me, saying; The people of Israel and the priests and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands as regards their detestable things, namely, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians and the Amorites. (**Ezra 9:1**)**
  - **For they have accepted some of their daughters for themselves and for their sons, and they, the holy seed, have become mingled with the peoples of the lands, and the hand of the princes and the deputy rulers has proved to be foremost in this unfaithfulness. (**Ezra 9:2**)**
  - **Also, in those days I saw the Jews that had given a dwelling to Ashdodite, Ammonite and Moabite wives. (**Nehemiah 13:23**)**
  - **And as for their sons, half were speaking Ashdodite, and there were none of them knowing how to speak Jewish, but in the tongue of the different peoples. (**Nehemiah 13:24**)**
  - **And I began to find fault with them and call down evil upon them and strike some men of them and pull out their hair and make them swear by God; You should not give your daughters to their sons, and you should not accept any of their daughters for your sons or yourselves. (**Nehemiah 13:25**)**
  - **This wrong course necessitated vigorous purges of foreign wives and their sons under the direction of Ezra and Nehemiah.**
  - **Then Shecaniah the son of Jehiel of the sons of Elam answered**

- and said to Ezra; We, we have acted unfaithfully against our God, so that we gave a dwelling to foreign wives from the peoples of the land. Yet now there exists a hope for Israel concerning this. (**Ezra 10:2**)
- And now let us conclude a covenant with our God to put away all the wives and those born from them according to the counsel of Yehowah and of those trembling at the commandment of our God, that it may be done according to the law. (**Ezra 10:3**)
  - Get up, for the matter devolves upon you, and we are with you. Be strong and act. (**Ezra 10:4**)
  - At length Ezra the priest rose and said to them; You yourselves have acted unfaithfully in that you gave a dwelling to foreign wives so as to add to the guiltiness of Israel. (**Ezra 10:10**)
  - And now make confession to Yehowah the God of your forefathers and do his pleasure and separate yourselves from the peoples of the land and from the foreign wives. (**Ezra 10:11**)
  - To this all the congregation answered and said with a loud voice; Exactly according to your word it devolves upon us to do. (**Ezra 10:12**)
  - However, the people are many, and it is the season of showers of rain, and it is not possible to stand outside, and the business will not take one day or two, for we have rebelled to a great extent in this matter. (**Ezra 10:13**)
  - So, please, let our princes act representatively for all the congregation, and, as for all in our cities who have given a dwelling to foreign wives, let them come at the times appointed and along with them the older men of each individual city and its judges, until we have turned back the burning anger of our God from us, on account of this matter. (**Ezra 10:14**)
  - However, Jonathan the son of Asahel and Jahzeiah the son of Tikvah themselves stood up against this, and Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levites were the ones that helped them. (**Ezra 10:15**)
  - And the former exiles proceeded to do that way, and Ezra the priest and the men that were the heads of the fathers for their

- paternal house, even all of them by their names, now separated themselves and began sitting on the first day of the tenth month to inquire into the matter. (**Ezra 10:16**)
- And gradually they finished with all the men that had given a dwelling to foreign wives by the first day of the first month. (**Ezra 10:17**)
  - And some of the sons of the priests came to be found that had given a dwelling to foreign wives, of the sons of Jeshua the son of Jehozadak and his brothers, Maaseiah and Eliezer and Jarib and Gedaliah. (**Ezra 10:18**)
  - But they promised by shaking hands to put their wives away, and that, they being guilty, there should be a ram of the flock for their guiltiness. (**Ezra 10:19**)
  - These all had accepted **foreign** wives, and they proceeded to send away wives along with sons. (**Ezra 10:44**)
  - On that day there was a reading from the book of Moses in the ears of the people, and there was found written in it that the Ammonite and the Moabite should not come into the congregation of the true God to time indefinite. (**Nehemiah 13:1**)
  - For they had not met the sons of Israel with bread and with water, but went hiring against them Balaam to call down evil upon them. However, our God changed the malediction into a benediction. (**Nehemiah 13:2**)
  - So it came about that, as soon as they heard the Law, they began to separate all the mixed company from Israel. (**Nehemiah 13:3**)
  - And is it not something unheard of for you to commit all this great badness in acting unfaithfully against our God by giving a dwelling to foreign wives? (**Nehemiah 13:27**)
  - And one of the sons of Joiada the son of Eliashib the High Priest was a son-in-law of Sanballat the Horonite. So I chased him away from me. (**Nehemiah 13:28**)
  - Do remember them, O my God, on account of the defilement of the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and of the Levites. (**Nehemiah 13:29**)

- **And I purified them from everything **foreign** and proceeded to assign duties to the priests and to the Levites, each one in his own work. (**Nehemiah 13:30**)**
- **Action was also taken against other **foreigners** guilty of improprieties.**
- **Then I came to Jerusalem and got to notice the badness that Eliashib had committed for Tobiah by making for him a hall in the courtyard of the house of the true God. (**Nehemiah 13:7**)**
- **And it seemed very bad to me. So I threw all the furniture of Tobiah's house outside the dining hall. (**Nehemiah 13:8**)**
- **And the Tyrians themselves dwelt in the city, bringing in fish and every sort of merchandise and making sales on the Sabbath to the sons of Judah and in Jerusalem. (**Nehemiah 13:16**)**
- **So I began to find fault with the nobles of Judah and say to them; What is this bad thing that you are doing, even profaning the Sabbath day? (**Nehemiah 13:17**)**
- **Was it not this way that your forefathers did, so that our God brought upon us all this calamity, and also upon this city? Yet you are adding to the burning anger against Israel by profaning the Sabbath. (**Nehemiah 13:18**)**
- **And it came about that, as soon as the gates of Jerusalem had grown shadowy before the Sabbath, I immediately said the word and the doors began to be closed. I said further that they should not open them until after the Sabbath, and some of my own attendants I stationed at the gates that no burden might come in on the Sabbath day. (**Nehemiah 13:19**)**
- **Consequently the traders and the sellers of every sort of merchandise spent the night outside Jerusalem once and a second time. (**Nehemiah 13:20**)**
- **Then I proceeded to bear witness against them and say to them; Why are you spending the night in front of the wall? If you do it again, a hand I shall lay on you. From that time on they did not come on the Sabbath. (**Nehemiah 13:21**)**

- **The conquering Babylonians had dealt very harshly with the Jews at the time of the destruction of Jerusalem.**
- **Yehowah has become like an enemy. He has swallowed down Israel. He has swallowed down all her dwelling towers, he has brought his fortified places to ruin. And in the daughter of Judah he makes mourning and lamentation abound. (Lamentations 2:5)**
- **And he treats his booth violently like that in a garden. He has brought his festival to ruin. Yehowah has caused to be forgotten in Zion festival and Sabbath, and in his angry denunciation he shows no respect for king and priest. (Lamentations 2:6)**
- **Yehowah has cast off his altar. He has spurned his sanctuary. Into the hand of the enemy he has surrendered the walls of her dwelling towers. In the house of Yehowah they have let out their own voice, as in the day of a festival. (Lamentations 2:7)**
- **Yehowah has thought of bringing the wall of the daughter of Zion to ruin. He has stretched out the measuring line. He has not turned back his hand from swallowing up. And he causes rampart and wall to go mourning. Together they have faded away. (Lamentations 2:8)**
- **Her gates have sunk down into the very earth. He has destroyed and broken her bars in pieces. Her king and her princes are among the nations. There is no law. Her own prophets also have found no vision from Yehowah. (Lamentations 2:9)**
- **The older men of the daughter of Zion sit down on the earth, where they keep silence. They have brought up dust upon their head. They have girded on sackcloth. The virgins of Jerusalem have brought their head down to the very earth. (Lamentations 2:10)**
- **My eyes have come to their end in sheer tears. My intestines are in a ferment. My liver has been poured out to the very earth, on account of the crash of the daughter of my people, because of the fainting away of child and suckling in the public squares of the town. (Lamentations 2:11)**
- **To their mothers they kept saying; Where are grain and wine? Because of their fainting away like someone slain in the public squares of the city, because of their soul being poured out into**

- the bosom of their mothers. (**Lamentations 2:12**)
- To their mothers they kept saying; Where are grain and wine? Because of their fainting away like someone slain in the public squares of the city, because of their soul being poured out into the bosom of their mothers. (**Lamentations 2:12**)
  - Of what shall I use you as a witness? What shall I liken to you, O daughter of Jerusalem? What shall I make equal to you, that I may comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion? For your breakdown is just as great as the sea. Who can bring healing to you? (**Lamentations 2:13**)
  - Your own prophets have visioned for you worthless and unsatisfying things; And they have not uncovered your error in order to turn back your captivity. But they kept visioning for you worthless and misleading pronouncements. (**Lamentations 2:14**)
  - At you all those passing along on the road have clapped their hands. They have whistled and kept wagging their head at the daughter of Jerusalem, saying; Is this the city of which they used to say; It is the perfection of prettiness, an exultation for all the earth? (**Lamentations 2:15**)
  - After the liberation, the Jews were in constant conflict with the **foreigners** around them in the Promised Land, especially being harassed by the Greek rulers of Syria.
  - In the Jews efforts to maintain their restored worship, they had to resist the fierce persecutions of Antiochus IV Epiphanes as he attempted to Hellenize the Jews.
  - Throughout the postexilic centuries the Israelites were in a constant struggle for independence, which created a zeal for Judaism and, on the part of some, an intensely nationalistic spirit.
  - These factors, coupled with the fear of mongrelizing their race through intermarriage with foreigners, likely contributed to the departure from the liberal spirit clearly evident in the Hebrew Scriptures respecting **foreigners**.
  - And also to the **foreigner**, who is no part of your people Israel and who actually comes from a distant land by reason of your name (**1 Kings 8:41**)

- For they shall hear of your great name and of your strong hand and of your stretched-out arm, and he actually comes and prays toward this house. (**1 Kings 8:42**)
- May you yourself listen from the heavens, your established place of dwelling, and you must do according to all that for which the **foreigner** calls to you, in order, that all the peoples of the earth may get to know your name so as to fear you the same as your people Israel do, and so as to know that your name itself has been called upon this house that I have built. (**1 Kings 8:43**)
- And also to the **foreigner** who is no part of your people Israel and who actually comes from a distant land by reason of your great name and your strong hand and your stretched-out arm, and they actually come and pray toward this house. (**2 Chronicles 6:32**)
- Then may you yourself listen from the heavens, from your established place of dwelling, and you must do according to all for which the **foreigner** calls to you, in order, that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and may fear you the same as your people Israel do, and may know that your name has been called upon this house that I have built. (**2 Chronicles 6:33**)
- And the **foreigners** that have joined themselves to Yehowah to minister to him and to love the name of Yehowah, in order to become servants to him, all those keeping the Sabbath in order not to profane it and laying hold of my covenant. (**Isaiah 56:6**)
- I will also bring them to my holy mountain and make them rejoice inside my house of prayer. Their whole burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be for acceptance upon my altar. For my own house will be called even a house of prayer for all the peoples. (**Isaiah 56:7**)

#### ·· **During the First Century C.E.**

- Particularly through the influence of their religious leaders, there developed the aloofness and rigid exclusiveness that existed among the Jews in the **First Century C.E.**
- Evidence of this attitude is seen in the disdain they showed for the Samaritans, a people of mixed descent from Israelites and



**foreigners. As a rule the Jews had no dealings with the Samaritans, not even wanting to ask for so much as a drink of water from them.**

- **Therefore the Samaritan woman said to him; How is it that you, despite being a Jew, ask me for a drink, when I am a Samaritan woman? For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. (John 4:9)**
- **Jesus, however, made clear the wrongness of such an extreme view.**
- **But, wanting to prove himself righteous, the man said to Jesus; Who really is my neighbor? (Luke 10:29)**
- **In reply Jesus said; A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among robbers, who both stripped him and inflicted blows, and went off, leaving him half-dead. (Luke 10:30)**
- **Now, by coincidence, a certain priest was going down over that road, but, when he saw him, he went by on the opposite side. (Luke 10:31)**
- **Likewise, a Levite also, when he got down to the place and saw him, went by on the opposite side. (Luke 10:32)**
- **But a certain Samaritan traveling the road came upon him and, at seeing him, he was moved with pity. (Luke 10:33)**
- **So he approached him and bound up his wounds, pouring oil and wine upon them. Then he mounted him upon his own beast and brought him to an inn and took care of him. (Luke 10:34)**
- **And the next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said; Take care of him, and whatever you spend besides this, I will repay you when I come back here. (Luke 10:35)**
- **Who of these three seems to you to have made himself neighbor to the man that fell among the robbers? (Luke 10:36)**
- **He said; The one that acted mercifully toward him. Jesus then said to him; Go your way and be doing the same yourself. (Luke 10:37)**

- **The establishment of the New Covenant on the basis of Christ's ransom sacrifice brought to an end the legal separation between Jew and Gentile.**
- **Therefore keep bearing in mind that formerly you were people of the nations as to flesh, uncircumcision you were called by that which is called circumcision made in the flesh with hands. (Ephesians 2:11)**
- **That you were at that particular time without Christ, alienated from the state of Israel and strangers to the covenants of the promise, and you had no hope and were without God in the world. (Ephesians 2:12)**
- **But now in union with Christ Jesus you who were once far off have come to be near by the blood of the Christ. (Ephesians 2:13)**
- **For he is our peace, he who made the two parties one and destroyed the wall in between that fenced them off. (Ephesians 2:14)**
- **By means of his flesh he abolished the enmity, the Law of commandments consisting in decrees, that he might create the two peoples in union with himself into one new man and make peace. (Ephesians 2:15)**
- **And that he might fully reconcile both peoples in one body to God through the torture stake, because he had killed off the enmity by means of himself. (Ephesians 2:16)**
- **Yet, even after Pentecost of 33 C.E, the early disciples were slow to grasp this fact. The common or standard Jewish view was expressed by Peter to the Gentile Cornelius; You well know how unlawful it is for a Jew to join himself to or approach a man of another race.**
- **And he said to them; You well know how unlawful it is for a Jew to join himself to or approach a man of another race, and yet God has shown me I should call no man defiled or unclean. (Acts of Apostles (10:28)**
- **Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the governor's palace. It was now early in the day. But they themselves did not enter into the governor's palace, that they might not get defiled but might**

eat the Passover. (**John 18:28**)

- Shows that entry into a Gentile home was viewed by the Jews as an act that brought ceremonial defilement. While the Law given through Moses made no specific injunction against such minor association, this view was common among the Jews and particularly among their religious leaders.
- It took some time for the early Jewish Christians to free themselves of the restrictions imposed by prevailing attitudes and recognize the fact emphasized by the apostle Paul that, for those having the new Christian personality, there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, **foreigner**, Scythian, slave, freeman, but Christ is all things and in all.
- However, when Cephas came to Antioch, I resisted him face to face, because he stood condemned. (**Galatians 2:11**)
- For before the arrival of certain men from James, he used to eat with people of the nations, but when they arrived, he went withdrawing and separating himself, in fear of those of the circumcised class. (**Galatians 2:12**)
- The rest of the Jews also joined him in putting on this pretense, so that even Barnabas was led along with them in their pretense. (**Galatians 2:13**)
- But when I saw they were not walking straight according to the truth of the Good News, I said to Cephas before them all; If you, though you are a Jew, live as the nations do, and not as Jews do, how is it that you are compelling people of the nations to live according to Jewish practice? (**Galatians 2:14**)
- And clothe yourselves with the new personality, which through accurate knowledge is being made new according to the image of the One who created it. (**Colossians 3:10**)
- Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, **foreigner**, Scythian, slave, freeman, but Christ is all things and in all. (**Colossians 3:11**)
- The **Greek** word for **foreigner** is *bar'ba-ros*, basically referring to one who did not speak Greek.

**See Also BARBARIAN**