

Role of the Non-Jew According to the Tanach

Definition of Terms

Hebrew Word: rg (**ger**)

1. Hebrew sojourner
 - a. a temporary inhabitant, a newcomer lacking inherited rights
 - b. of foreigners in Israel, though conceded rights
2. Word Usage - Total: 92 alien 40, aliens 11, foreigners 1, immigrants 1, sojourner 5, sojourners 2, stranger 25, stranger's 1, strangers 6

Hebrew Word: rkn> (**nekar**)

1. foreign, alien, foreignness, that which is foreign
 - a. foreignness, foreign gods
 - b. alien, foreigner
2. Word Usage - Total: 35 aliens* 2, foreign 16, foreigner* 6, foreigners* 10, strange 1

Biblical Teachings By Book:

Exodus:

'Seven days there shall be no leaven found in your houses; for whoever eats what is leavened, that person shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is an **alien or a native** of the land. (12:19)
(The "ger" to celebrate Feast of Unleavened Bread)

But if a **stranger** sojourns with you, and celebrates the Passover to the Lord, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near to celebrate it; and he shall be like a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person may eat of it. The same law shall apply to **the native as to the stranger** who sojourns among you (12:48-49)
(The "ger" to celebrate Passover and same Torah for Jew and non-Jew)

But the seventh day is a Sabbath of the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your **sojourner** who stays with you (20:10)
(The "ger" to celebrate Sabbath as well as the native born)

And you shall not wrong a **stranger** or oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.(22:21)
(Fair Treatment is to be shown to the "ger")

And you shall not oppress a **stranger**, since you yourselves know the feelings of a **stranger**, for you also were strangers in the land of Egypt. (23:9)
(Fair Treatment of the "ger")

Six days you are to do your work, but on the seventh day you shall cease from labor in order that your ox and your donkey may rest, and the son of your female slave, as well as your **stranger**, may refresh themselves (23:12)

(The "ger" to celebrate Sabbath as well as the native born)

Leviticus

And this shall be a permanent statute for you: in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall humble your souls, and not do any work, whether the native, or the **alien** who sojourns among you (16:29)

(Context teaching on Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement - The "ger" to benefit from Yom Kippur)

Then you shall say to them, 'Any man from the house of Israel, or from the **aliens** who sojourn among them, who offers a burnt offering or sacrifice (17:8)

(The Sacrifice of the "ger" acceptable to the LORD)

And any man from the house of Israel, **or from the aliens** who sojourn among them, who eats any blood, I will set My face against that person who eats blood, and will cut him off from among his people. (17:10)

(The "ger" not to Eat or Drink Blood, same Torah as the native born)

Therefore I said to the sons of Israel, 'No person among you may eat blood, nor may any **alien** who sojourns among you eat blood (17:12)

(The "ger" not to Eat or Drink Blood, same Torah as the native born)

So when any man from the sons of Israel, or from the **aliens** who sojourn among them, in hunting catches a beast or a bird which may be eaten, he shall pour out its blood and cover it with earth (17:13)

(The "ger" to Kosher animals before eating)

And when any person eats an animal which dies, or is torn by beasts, whether he is a native or an **alien**, he shall wash his clothes and bathe in water, and remain unclean until evening; then he will become clean. (17:15)

(Laws of Ritual Purity and what is Treif valid for the "ger" and native born)

But as for you, you are to keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not do any of these abominations, neither the native, nor the **alien** who sojourns among you (18:26)

(Torah of Sexual Purity is the same for the "ger" and the native born)

Nor shall you glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather the fallen fruit of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the needy and for the **stranger**. I am the Lord your God. (19:10)

(Kindness is to be shown to the "ger")

When a stranger resides with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. (19:33)

(Kindness to be shown to the "ger")

The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself; for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God. (19:34)

(Love the "ger" as self)

You shall also say to the sons of Israel, 'Any man from the sons of Israel or from the **aliens** sojourning in Israel, who gives any of his offspring to Molech, shall surely be put to death; the people of the land shall stone him with stones (20:2)

(Same Torah on Idolatry for the "ger" as the native born)

Speak to Aaron and to his sons and to all the sons of Israel, and say to them, 'Any man of the house of Israel or of the **aliens** in Israel who presents his offering, whether it is any of their votive or any of their freewill offerings, which they present to the Lord for a burnt offering (22:18)

(Freewill and Burnt Offerings of the "ger" acceptable to the LORD)

When you reap the harvest of your land, moreover, you shall not reap to the very corners of your field, nor gather the gleaning of your harvest; you are to leave them for the needy and the **alien**. I am the Lord your God. (23:22)

(Kindness to be shown to the "ger")

Moreover, the one who blasphemes the name of the Lord shall surely be put to death; all the congregation shall certainly stone him. The **alien** as well as the native, when he blasphemes the Name, shall be put to death. (24:16)

(The "ger" held accountable for cursing God in the same way as the native born)

There shall be one standard for you; it shall be for the **stranger** as well as the native, for I am the Lord your God (24:22)

(One Standard of Conduct for the "ger" and the native born)

Numbers

And if an alien sojourns among you and observes the Passover to the Lord, according to the statute of the Passover and according to its ordinance, so he shall do; you shall have one statute, both for the **alien** and for the native of the land (9:14)

(Passover to be celebrated by the "ger" as well as by the native born)

And if an **alien** sojourns with you, or one who may be among you throughout your generations, and he wishes to make an offering by fire, as a soothing aroma to the Lord, just as you do, so he shall do (15:14)

(God Accepts the offerings of the "ger")

As for the assembly, there shall be one statute for you and for the **alien** who sojourns with you, a perpetual statute throughout your generations; as you are, so shall the **alien** be before the Lord. There is to be one law and one ordinance for you and for the **alien** who

sojourns with you. (15:15-16)
(One Torah for the native born and the "ger")

So all the congregation of the sons of Israel will be forgiven, with the **alien** who sojourns among them, for it happened to all the people through error. (15:26)
(Priestly Atonement is valid for the native born and the "ger")

You shall have one law for him who does anything unintentionally, for him who is native among the sons of Israel and for the **alien** who sojourns among them. (15:29)
(One Torah for the native born and the "ger")

But the person who does anything defiantly, whether he is native or an alien, that one is blaspheming the Lord; and that person shall be cut off from among his people. (15:30)

And the one who gathers the ashes of the heifer shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening; and it shall be a perpetual statute to the sons of Israel and to the **alien** who sojourns among them. (19:10)
(Law of Red Heifer in Cleansing Defilement is valid for the native born and the "ger")

Deuteronomy

Then I charged your judges at that time, saying, 'Hear the cases between your fellow countrymen, and judge righteously between a man and his fellow countryman, or the **alien** who is with him. (1:16)
(Fair Justice is to be shown to all - native born or "ger")

but the seventh day is a sabbath of the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant or your ox or your donkey or any of your cattle or your **sojourner** who stays with you, so that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you (5:14)
(Sabbath for the "ger" was well as the native born)

He executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and shows His love for the **alien** by giving him food and clothing. "So show your love for the **alien**, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt. (10:18-19)
(Love and Justice to be shown to the "ger")

and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God, you and your son and your daughter and your male and female servants and the Levite who is in your town, and the **stranger** and the orphan and the widow who are in your midst, in the place where the Lord your God chooses to establish His name. (16:11)
(Context: The "ger" is to celebrate the Feast of Weeks as well as the native born)

and you shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter and your male and female servants and the Levite and the **stranger** and the orphan and the widow who are in your towns. (16:14)

(Context: The Feast of Succoth (Tabernacles) to be Celebrated by the "ger" as well as the native born)

You shall not pervert the justice due an **alien** or an orphan, nor take a widow's garment in pledge (24:17)
(Fair Justice is to be shown to the "ger")

When you reap your harvest in your field and have forgotten a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be for the **alien**, for the orphan, and for the widow, in order that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. When you beat your olive tree, you shall not go over the boughs again; it shall be for the **alien**, for the orphan, and for the widow. "When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, you shall not go over it again; it shall be for the **alien**, for the orphan, and for the widow (24:19-21)
(Kindness is to be shown to the "ger")

and you and the Levite and the **alien** who is among you shall rejoice in all the good which the Lord your God has given you and your household. "When you have finished paying all the tithe of your increase in the third year, the year of tithing, then you shall give it to the Levite, to the **stranger**, to the orphan and to the widow, that they may eat in your towns, and be satisfied (26:11-12)
(Portion of Third Year Tithe is to be Given to the "ger")

Assemble the people, the men and the women and children and the **alien** who is in your town, in order that they may hear and learn and fear the Lord your God, and be careful to observe all the words of this law. (31:12)
(The "ger" are instructed to Learn, Fear, Observe God's Torah along with all the native born)

Joshua

And all Israel with their elders and officers and their judges were standing on both sides of the ark before the Levitical priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord, the **stranger** as well as the native. Half of them stood in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, just as Moses the servant of the Lord had given command at first to bless the people of Israel. There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded which Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel with the women and the little ones and the strangers who were living among them. (8:33,35)
(Hearing of Torah as valid for Life Conduct is the same for the "ger" and the native born)

II Chronicles

And all the assembly of Judah rejoiced, with the priests and the Levites, and all the assembly that came from Israel, both the **sojourners** who came from the land of Israel and those living in Judah. (30:25)
(Context: Celebrating Passover - Both native born and the "ger" celebrate together)

Isaiah

When the Lord will have compassion on Jacob, and again choose Israel, and settle them in their own land, then **strangers** will join them and attach themselves to the house of Jacob(14:1)

Let not the **foreigner** who has joined himself to the Lord say, "The Lord will surely separate me from His people." Neither let the eunuch say, "Behold, I am a dry tree."
(56:3)

(Here the word "neker" is used and is counted as being **among** God's people!)

Also the **foreigners** who join themselves to the Lord, To minister to Him, and to love the name of the Lord, To be His servants, every one who keeps from profaning the sabbath, And holds fast My covenant (56:6)

(The word "neker" is used here, and are affirmed for celebrating the Sabbath and holding fast to God's covenant)

Ezekiel

And it will come about that you shall divide it by lot for an inheritance among yourselves and among the **aliens** who stay in your midst, who bring forth sons in your midst. And they shall be to you as the native-born among the sons of Israel; they shall be allotted an inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel. And it will come about that in the tribe with which the **alien** stays, there you shall give him his inheritance," declares the Lord God (47:22-23)

(The "ger" to have a portion of the Land along with the native born)