

The **Mixed Multitude** was also at **SINAI!**

More often than not most Christian as well as Jewish individuals will tell you that the Law was only given to the Israelites, the children of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob! Then they will usually go on to say, “God did not give the Law to the non-Israelites or Gentiles”! But is that really true? Is it possible that it was also given to at least some non-Israelites or Gentiles?

Exodus 12:38 (NASB)

(38) **A mixed multitude** also went up with them, along with flocks and herds, a very large number of livestock.

The Mixed Multitude went with the Children of Israel to Mount Sinai and also received the Law at the same time as the Children of Israel did.

Some have tried to push this aside by claiming, there really weren't that many individuals in this group. So, it's not worth worrying about. However Scripture does “**not**” say that there was only “A Mixed Few”!

These individuals who are referred to as the Mixed Multitude in verse thirty eight of chapter twelve in Exodus, are frequently referred to later in the books of Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy as ALIENS, FOREIGNERS or STRANGER; depending on the Translation and the verse.

Deuteronomy 29:10-15 (NASB)

(10) “You stand today, all of you, before the LORD your God: your chiefs, your tribes, your elders and your officers, *even* all the men of Israel,

(11) your little ones, your wives, **and the ALIEN who is within your camps**, from the one who chops your wood to the one who draws your water,

(12) that you may enter into the covenant with the LORD your God, and into His oath which the LORD your God is making with you today,

(13) in order that He may establish you today as His people and that He may be your God, just as He spoke to you and as He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

(14) “**Now not with you alone am I making this covenant and this oath,**

(15) **but both with those who stand here with us today in the presence of the LORD our God and with those who are not with us here today.**”

Notice: Scripture declares that **not only** is God making a Covenant with the Children of Israel. But He is **also** making the same Covenant with the ALIENS who are still with them, living

in their camps. These ALIENS are predominantly from the Mixed Multitude (and their descendants) who had also received the Law from God at Mount Sinai. God goes on to declare that this Covenant is also being made with others who are not with them. Who are they?

So let's go back to the book of Exodus, where Moses and the rest are still at Sinai and see what is being said about these non-Israelites who are referred to as Aliens, Foreigners and Strangers, whether they are from the Mixed Multitude or from somewhere else.

Exodus 12:47-49 (NKJV)

(47) "All the congregation of Israel shall keep it.

(48) And when a **STRANGER** dwells with you *and wants* to keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and **he shall be as a native of the land.** For no uncircumcised person shall eat it.

(49) **One Law shall be for the native-born and for the STRANGER who dwells among you.**"

Exodus 12:18-20 (NASB)

(18) "In the first *month*, on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the month at evening.

(19) 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.**

(20) You shall not eat anything leavened; in all your dwellings you shall eat unleavened bread."

Exodus 12:13-19 (NASB)

(13) The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy *you* when I strike the land of Egypt.

Feast of Unleavened Bread

(14) "Now this day will be a memorial to you, and you shall celebrate it *as* a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations you are to celebrate it *as* a permanent ordinance.

(15) Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, but on the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses; for whoever eats anything leavened from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel.

(16) On the first day you shall have a holy assembly, and *another* holy assembly on the seventh day; no work at all shall be done on them, except what must be eaten by every person, that alone may be prepared by you.

(17) You shall also observe the *Feast of Unleavened Bread*, for on this very day I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt; therefore you shall observe this day throughout your generations as a permanent ordinance.

(18) In the first *month*, on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the month at evening.

(19) 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.**”

Leviticus 24:21-22 (NKJV)

(21) “And whoever kills an animal shall restore it; but whoever kills a man shall be put to death.

(22) **You shall have the same Law for the STRANGER and for one from your own country;** for I *am* the LORD your God.”

Numbers 15:14-16 (NASB)

Law of the Sojourner

(14) “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) **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.**

(16) **There is to be one Law and one ordinance for you and for the ALIEN who sojourns with you.**”

Numbers 15:28-31 (NASB)

(28) The priest shall make atonement before the LORD for the person who goes astray when he sins unintentionally, making atonement for him that he may be forgiven.

(29) **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.**

(30) 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.

(31) Because he has despised the word of the LORD and has broken His commandment, that person shall be completely cut off; his guilt *will be* on him.”

Numbers 9:14 (NKJV)

(14) “And if a **STRANGER** dwells among you, and would keep the LORD’s Passover, he must do so according to the rite of the Passover and according to its ceremony; **you shall have one ordinance, both for the STRANGER and the native of the land.**”

Exodus 20:9-11 (NKJV)

(9) Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

(10) but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD your God. *In it* you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your **STRANGER** who *is* within your gates.

(11) For *in* six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that *is* in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

Exodus 23:12 (NIV)

(12) “Six days do your work, but on the seventh day do not work, so that your ox and your donkey may rest, and so that the slave born in your household and the **FOREIGNER** living among you may be refreshed.

Leviticus 16:29 (NIV)

(29) “This is to be a lasting ordinance for you: On the tenth day of the seventh month you must deny yourselves and not do any work—**whether native-born or a FOREIGNER** residing among you—

Leviticus 17:11-13 (NASB)

(11) ‘For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.’

(12) 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.’**

(13) 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.

Leviticus 17:14-16 (NASB)

(14) “For *as for the* life of all flesh, its blood is *identified* with its life. Therefore I said to the sons of Israel, ‘You are not to eat the blood of any flesh, for the life of all flesh is its blood; whoever eats it shall be cut off.’

(15) 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.

(16) But if he does not wash *them* or bathe his body, then he shall bear his guilt.”

Leviticus 18:25-27 (NKJV)

(25) For the land is defiled; therefore I visit the punishment of its iniquity upon it, and the land vomits out its inhabitants.

(26) You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not commit any of these abominations, either any of your own nation or any STRANGER who dwells among you

(27) (for all these abominations the men of the land have done, who *were* before you, and thus the land is defiled),

Leviticus 19:32-34 (NIV)

(32) “Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the LORD.”

(33) “When a FOREIGNER resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them.”

(34) “The FOREIGNER residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were FOREIGNERS in Egypt. I am the LORD your God.”

Leviticus 24:16 (NASB)

(16) 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.

Leviticus 24:21-22 (NIV)

(21) “Whoever kills an animal must make restitution, but whoever kills a human being is to be put to death.

(22) **You are to have the same Law for the FOREIGNER and the native-born.** I am the LORD your God.”

Leviticus 25:5-7 (NASB)

(5) Your harvest’s after growth you shall not reap, and your grapes of untrimmed vines you shall not gather; the land shall have a Sabbatical year.

(6) All of you shall have the Sabbath *products* of the land for food; yourself, and your male and female slaves, and your hired man **and your FOREIGN resident, those who live as ALIENS with you.**

(7) Even your cattle and the animals that are in your land shall have all its crops to eat.

Leviticus 25:34-36 (NIV)

(34) But the pastureland belonging to their towns must not be sold; it is their permanent possession.

(35) “If any of your fellow Israelites become poor and are unable to support themselves among you, **help them as you would a FOREIGNER and STRANGER,** so they can continue to live among you.”

(36) “Do not take interest or any profit from them, but fear your God, so that they may continue to live among you.”

Numbers 15:25-26 (NASB)

(25) Then the priest shall make atonement for all the congregation of the sons of Israel, and they will be forgiven; for it was an error, and they have brought their offering, an offering by fire to the LORD, and their sin offering before the LORD, for their error.

(26) **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.

Numbers 19:10 (NKJV)

(10) And the one who gathers the ashes of the heifer shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until evening. **It shall be a statute forever to the children of Israel and to the STRANGER who dwells among them.**

Numbers 19:10 (NASB)

(10) 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.**

Numbers 35:14-15 (NASB)

(14) You shall give three cities across the Jordan and three cities in the land of Canaan; they are to be cities of refuge.

(15) These six cities shall be for refuge **for the sons of Israel, and for the ALIEN and for the sojourner among them;** that anyone who kills a person unintentionally may flee there.

Deuteronomy 1:16-17 (NASB)

(16) “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.’”

(17) “**You shall not show partiality in judgment;** you shall hear the small and the great alike. You shall not fear man, for the judgment is God’s. The case that is too hard for you, you shall bring to me, and I will hear it.”

The Alien (or Aliens) spoken of in the above passage of Scripture would have been, for the most part, the members of the group referred to earlier as the Mixed Multitude and their descendants.

Deuteronomy 5:13-14 (NKJV)

(13) Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

(14) but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD your God. *In it* you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your ox, nor your donkey, nor any of your cattle, nor your **STRANGER** who *is* within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you.

Deuteronomy 10:16-19 (NASB)

(16) So circumcise your heart, and stiffen your neck no longer.

(17) For the LORD your God is the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God who does not show partiality nor take a bribe.

(18) He executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and **shows His love for the ALIEN** by giving him food and clothing.

(19) **So show your love for the ALIEN, for you were ALIENS in the land of Egypt.**

Deuteronomy 14:28-29 (NASB)

(28) “At the end of every third year you shall bring out all the tithes of your produce in that year, and shall deposit *it* in your town.”

(29) The Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance among you, and the **ALIEN**, the orphan and the widow who are in your town, shall come and eat and be satisfied, in order that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hand which you do.

Deuteronomy 16:10-11 (NASB)

(10) Then you shall celebrate the Feast of Weeks to the LORD your God with a tribute of a freewill offering of your hand, which you shall give just as the LORD your God blesses you;

(11) 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.

Deuteronomy 24:17, 19-20 (NASB)

(17) “You shall not pervert the justice due an ALIEN *or* an orphan, nor take a widow’s garment in pledge.”

(19) “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.”

(20) “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.”

Deuteronomy 26:10-13 (NASB)

(10) Now behold, I have brought the first of the produce of the ground which You, O LORD have given me.’ And you shall set it down before the LORD your God, and worship before the LORD your God;

(11) 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.

(12) “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.

(13) You shall say before the LORD your God, ‘I have removed the sacred *portion* from *my* house, and also have given it to the Levite and the ALIEN, the orphan and the widow, according to all Your commandments which You have commanded me; I have not transgressed or forgotten any of Your commandments.

Deuteronomy 27:19 (NASB)

(19) “Cursed is he who distorts the justice due an ALIEN, orphan, and widow.” And all the people shall say, “Amen.”

Deuteronomy 31:11-13 (NASB)

(11) When all Israel comes to appear before the LORD your God at the place which He will choose, you shall read this Law in front of all Israel in their hearing.

(12) Assemble the people, the men and the women and children and the ALIEN who is in your town, so that they may hear and learn and fear the LORD your God, and be careful to observe all the words of this Law.

(13) Their children, who have not known, will hear and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as you live on the land which you are about to cross the Jordan to possess.”

In the next Scripture, we see a group who are the descendants from a portion of the Mixed Multitude, who are being tested by GOD through His Prophet. This group appears to be descended from a truly righteous portion of the Mixed Multitude, who had maintained a proper level of devotion to ALMIGHTY GOD, plus they had also maintained a proper degree of honor and respect to their forefathers as well. And when they were put to the test they **did not** fail!

Jeremiah 35:1-18 (NIV)

(1) This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD during the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah King of Judah:

(2) “Go to the Recabite family and invite them to come to one of the side rooms of the house of the LORD and give them wine to drink.”

(3) So I went to get Jaazaniah son of Jeremiah, the son of Habazziniah, and his brothers and all his sons – the whole family of the Recabites.

(4) I brought them into the house of the LORD, into the room of the sons of Hanan son of Igdaliah the man of God. It was next to the room of the officials, which was over that of Maaseiah son of Shallum the doorkeeper.

(5) Then I set bowls full of wine and some cups before the men of the Recabite family and said to them, “Drink some wine.”

(6) But they replied, “We do not drink wine, because our forefather Jonadab son of Recab gave us the command: ‘Neither you nor your descendants must ever drink wine.’

(7) Also you must never build houses, sow or plant vineyards; you must never have any of these things, but must always live in tents. Then you will live a long time in the land where you are nomads.’

(8) We have obeyed everything our forefather Jonadab son of Recab commanded us. Neither we nor our wives nor our sons and our daughters have ever drunk wine

(9) or built houses to live in or had vineyards, fields or crops.

(10) We have lived in tents and have fully obeyed everything our forefather Jonadab commanded us.

(11) But when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon invaded this land, we said, ‘Come, we must go to Jerusalem to escape the Babylonians and Aramean armies.’

(12) Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying:

(13) “This is what THE LORD ALMIGHTY, the GOD of Israel, says: Go and tell the men of Judah and the people of Jerusalem, ‘Will you not learn of lesson and obey my words?’ declares the LORD.

(14) Jonadab son of Recab ordered his son not to drink wine and this command has been kept. To this day they do not drink wine, because they obey their forefather’s command. But I have spoken to you again and again, yet you have not obeyed Me.

(15) Again and again I sent all my servants the prophets to you. They said, “Each of you must turn from your wicked ways and reform your actions; do not follow other gods to serve them. Then you will live in the land I have given to you and your fathers.” But you have not paid attention or listened to Me.

(16) The descendants of Jonadab son of Recab have carried out the command their forefather gave them, but these people (of Judah) have not obeyed Me.’

(17) “Therefore, this is what the LORD GOD Almighty, the GOD of Israel, says: ‘Listen! I am going to bring on Judah and on everyone living in Jerusalem every disaster I pronounced against them. I spoke to them, but they did not listen; I called to them, but they did not answer.’”

(18) Then Jeremiah said to the family of the Recabites, “This is what the LORD Almighty, the GOD of Israel, says: ‘You have

obeyed the command of your forefather Jonadab and have followed all his instructions and have done everything he ordered.’
(19) Therefore, this is what THE LORD ALMIGHTY, the GOD of Israel, says: **‘Jonadab son of Recab will never fail to have a man to serve Me.’**”

They (the Recabites or Rechabite) passed their test, with what appears to have been flying colors. And just as Jonadab son of Recab had always, to that point, had those of his descendants who served THE ALMIGHTY. ALMIGHTY GOD, the **GOD of Israel** declares that there would never cease to be a man from the Recabites that did not serve ALMIGHTY GOD the **GOD of Israel!**

Notice that Recabites appear to have been serving GOD, to the best of their GOD given ability, up to that point, as well as both honoring and obeying their forefather’s directions. At which time God has Jeremiah put them to the test. We see that this event, which is recorded in Jeremiah, involves the testing of their obedience not just to ALMIGHTY GOD, but also to their forefather. GOD goes on to say that this portion of the Mixed Multitude would always have a righteous man from their portion of the Mixed Multitude that would be serving ALMIGHTY GOD.

Some in the Jewish Community over the years have blamed the Mixed Multitude (both the Righteous and the Un-righteous) for Israel’s failure with the Golden Calf. So, whether or not, this is or is not correct; they are in effect blaming GOD, for allowing the Children of Israel to be tested.

We see in Jeremiah 35:18-19 that GOD praised the Recabites (or Rechabites, who were a portion of the Mixed Multitude’s descendants) for their obedience! Yet, what did GOD say just before in Jeremiah 35:12-17 about the descendant of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob? So we see that when GOD allows a test to come on a group (or individual) the results can be either, a blessing or a curse, depending on whether or not, they pass or fail!

The choice is theirs!

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 (NIV)

(19) This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that **I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses.** **Now choose life**, so that you and your children may live
(20) and that you may love the LORD your GOD, listen to His voice, and hold fast to Him. For the LORD is your life, and He will give you many years in the land He swore to give to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

1 Kings 8:41-43 (NASB)

- (41) “Also concerning the FOREIGNER who is not of Your people Israel, when he comes from a far country for Your name’s sake
 (42) (for they will hear of Your great name and Your mighty hand, and of Your outstretched arm); when he comes and prays toward this house,
 (43) hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the FOREIGNER calls to You, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know Your name, to fear You, as do Your people Israel, and that they may know that this house which I have built is called by Your name.

2 Chronicles 6:32-33 (NASB)

- (32) “Also concerning the FOREIGNER who is not from Your people Israel, when he comes from a far country for Your great name’s sake and Your mighty hand and Your outstretched arm, when they come and pray toward this house,
 (33) then hear from heaven, from Your dwelling place, and 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 fear You as do Your people Israel, and that they may know that this house which I have built is called by Your name.

It is important to take a second look at the twenty ninth chapter of Deuteronomy, verses ten through fifteen. In order to fully grasp what God is proclaiming to those who will take the time and effort to understand.

Deuteronomy 29:10-15 (NASB)

- (10) “You stand today, all of you, before the LORD your God: your chiefs, your tribes, your elders and your officers, *even* all the men of Israel,
 (11) your little ones, your wives, and the ALIEN who is within your camps, from the one who chops your wood to the one who draws your water,
 (12) that you may enter into the covenant with the LORD your God, and into His oath which the LORD your God is making with you today,
 (13) in order that He may establish you today as His people and that He may be your God, just as He spoke to you and as He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
 (14) “Now not with you alone am I making this covenant and this oath,
 (15) but both with those who stand here with us today in the presence of the LORD our God and with those who are not with us here today.”

As was pointed out earlier, Scripture declares that **not only** is God making a Covenant with the Children of Israel. But that He is **also** making the same Covenant with the **ALIENS** who are still with them, living in their camps. These **ALIENS** are predominantly from the Mixed Multitude (and their descendants) who had also received the Law from God at Mount Sinai. God goes on to declare that this Covenant that God is making, is **also** being made with other who are **not** with them!

Who are they?