

Scripture References on Immigration

Friends, what follows is a chronological listing of scripture references from the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures (NRSV) that were used in Fr Henry Hoffman's recent sermon on immigration (which you can watch beginning at minute 27 here: <https://vimeo.com/900571318>) and additional helpful passages. This list is not all-inclusive, and we welcome you to share other verses with us.

Further discussion on the issue of immigration is always welcome. One way you can do this is to join Saint Philip's Anti-Racism discussion group that meets on Sundays via Zoom. For registration, please use the link found in the Sunday schedule section of the weekly e-newsletter *Bell & Tower* or contact Fr Henry Hoffman at FatherHHoffman@gmail.com.

Genesis 3:22–24. *Adam and Eve are forced out of the garden.*

Genesis Chapters 7 and 8. *Noah builds an ark and takes refuge from the flood.*

Genesis 12:1–2:

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing."

Genesis 12:10:

Now there was a famine in the land. So Abram went down to Egypt to reside there as an alien, for the famine was severe in the land.

Genesis 23. *Abraham is a stranger and an alien in the land of Canaan.*

Genesis 23:4:

Abraham said to the Hittites: "I am a stranger and an alien residing among you."

Genesis 47:1–7. *Jacob moves his family to Egypt to escape the famine and reunite with Joseph. Joseph brings his brothers to Pharaoh, and they are welcomed and given jobs.*

Exodus 12:49:

There shall be one law for the native and for the alien who resides among you.

Exodus 22:21:

You shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.

Exodus 23:9:

You shall not oppress a resident alien; you know the heart of an alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.

Exodus 1:15–2:10. *Pharaoh orders all the Hebrew boy babies to be killed, but Moses is hidden and saved by Pharaoh's daughter.*

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Exodus 22:21:

You shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.

Exodus 23:9:

You shall not oppress a resident alien; you know the heart of an alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.

Leviticus 19:9–10:

When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest. You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the LORD your God.

Leviticus 19:33–34:

“When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the native-born among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.”

Leviticus 23:22:

When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest; you shall leave them for the poor and for the alien: I am the LORD your God.

Leviticus 24:22:

You shall have one law for the alien and for the citizen: for I am the LORD your God.

Leviticus 25:35:

If any of your kin fall into difficulty and become dependent on you, you shall support them; they shall live with you as though resident aliens.

Jeremiah 22:3:

Do no wrong or violence to the alien, the orphan, and the widows.

Deuteronomy 10:18–19:

For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 23:15–16:

Slaves who have escaped to you from their owners shall not be given back to them. They shall reside with you, in your midst, in any place they choose in any one of your towns, wherever they please; you shall not oppress them.

Deuteronomy 24:14–15:

You shall not withhold the wages of poor and needy laborers, whether other Israelites or aliens who reside in your land in one of your towns. You shall pay them their wages daily before sunset, because they are poor and their livelihood depends on them.

Deuteronomy 24:19–22:

When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be left for the alien, the orphan, and the widow, so that the LORD your God may bless you in all your undertakings. When you beat your olive trees, do not strip what is left; it shall be for the

alien, the orphan, and the widow. When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow. Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I am commanding you to do this.

Deuteronomy 26:5:

“A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.”

Deuteronomy 27:19:

“Cursed be anyone who deprives the alien, the orphan, and the widow of justice.” All the people shall say, “Amen!”

Joshua 6. *The story of Joshua, and Jericho and the falling wall.*

Ruth 1:16–17:

“Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God.”

1 Chronicles 16:19–21:

When they were few in number, of little account, and strangers in the land, wandering from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people, he allowed no one to oppress them.

Psalms 146:9:

The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow.

Isaiah 49:11–12:

And I will turn all my mountains into a road, and my highways shall be raised up. Lo, these shall come from far away, and lo, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene.

Jeremiah 7:5–7:

For if you truly amend your ways and your doings, if you truly act justly one with another, if you do not oppress the alien, the orphan, and the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own hurt, then I will dwell with you in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your ancestors forever and ever.

Ezekiel 47:21–22:

You shall divide this land among you according to the tribes of Israel. You shall allot it as an inheritance for yourselves and for the aliens who reside among you and have begotten children among you. They shall be to you as citizens of Israel; with you they shall be allotted an inheritance among the tribes of Israel.

Zechariah 7:9–10:

The word of the LORD came to Zechariah, saying: Thus says the LORD of hosts: Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another; do not oppress the widow, the orphan, the alien, or the poor.

Luke 2:1–7. *Mary and Joseph had to cross the country in search of documentation at the time Jesus was born.*

Matthew 2:1–12. *The Visit of the Wise Men, who were migrants on temporary visas from Herod, who wanted to use them to get to Jesus.*

Matthew 2:13–15 (Jesus, Mary, and Joseph flee to Egypt):

“Now after [the wise men] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.”

Matthew 25:31–46:

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited

you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Mark 12:33:

Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

Luke 10:25–37. *The Parable of the Good Samaritan.*

Luke 10:27:

Jesus answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.”

Romans 12:13:

Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Galatians 3:28:

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 3:11:

In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

Hebrews 13:1-2:

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

1John 4:20-21:

Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Revelation 21:9–22:21. *The Vision of the New Jerusalem*