

The Invention of the *Goyim*

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1. שמות יטו,

ואתם תהיו-לי ממלכת כהנים, וגוי קדוש: אלה, הדברים, אשר תדבר, אל-בני ישראל.

1. Exodus 19:6 (trans. JPS modified)

and you shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak to the children of Israel

2. דברים כג, כא

לנכרי תשיף, ולא אחיף לא תשיף

2. Deuteronomy 23:21 (trans. JPS modified)

You may deduct interest [from loans] to the foreigner (*nokhri*), but not to your brother

3. במדבר טו, יג-טז

כל-האזרח יעשה-ככה, את-אלה, להקריב אשה רים-ניחם, ליהנה.

וכי-יגור אתכם גר או אשר-בתוככם, לדתיכם, ועשה אשה רים-ניחם, ליהנה--כאשר תעשו, בן יעשה.

הקהל, חקה אחת לכם ולגר הגר: חקת עולם לדתיכם, ככם פגר יהיה לפני יהנה.

תורה אחת ומשפט אחד, יהיה לכם, ולגר, הגר אתכם.

3. Numbers 15:13-16

All that are home-born shall do these things after this manner, in presenting an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD. And if a stranger sojourn with you, or whosoever may be among you, throughout your generations, and will offer an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD; as you do, so he shall do. As for the congregation, there shall be one statute both for you, and for the stranger that sojourneth with you, a statute for ever throughout your generations; as you are, so shall the stranger be before the LORD. One law and one ordinance shall be both for you, and for the stranger that sojourneth with you

4. דברים יד, כא

לא תאכלו כל נבלה, לגר אשר בשעריך תתנה ואכלה או מכר לנכרי, כי עם קדוש אתה לה' אלהיך

4. Deuteronomy 14:21

You shall not eat any carrion. Give it unto the stranger (*ger*) in thy gates, to eat; or sell it unto a foreigner (*nokhri*): for you are a holy people to the Lord your God.

5. דברים כט, ט-י

אתם נצבים היום כלכם לפני ה' אלהיכם ראשיכם שבטיכם זקניכם ושוטריכם, כל איש ישראל. טפכם נשיכם וגרך אשר בקרב מחניך, מחטב עציך עד שאב מימך. לעברך בבית ה' אלהיך ובאלתו, אשר ה' אלהיך כרת עמך היום

5. Deuteronomy 29:9-10

You stand this day all of you before the Lord your God; the captains of your tribes, your elders, and your officers, with all the men of Israel. Your youngsters, your women, and the stranger (*gercha*) that is in your camp, from the hewer of your wood to the drawer of your water: That you should enter into covenant with the Lord your God, and into his oath, which the Lord your God makes with you this day.

6. דברים כג, ד-ה

לא יבא עמוני ומואבי בקהל ה', גם דור עשירי לא יבוא להם בקהל ה' עד עולם. על דבר אשר לא קדמו אתכם בלחם ובמים בדרך בצאתכם ממצרים, ואשר שכר עליך את בלעם [...] לא תתעב אדומי כי אחיך הוא, לא תתעב מצרי כי גר היית בארצו

6. Deuteronomy 23:4-8

No Ammonite or Moabite shall be admitted into the congregation of the Lord; none of their descendants, even to the tenth generation, shall ever be admitted into the congregation of the Lord, because they did not meet you with food and water on your journey after you left Egypt, and because they hired Balaam [...] You shall not abhor an Edomite, for he is your brother. You shall not abhor an Egyptian, for you were a stranger in his land.

7. תוספתא ברכות ו, יח (עמ' 38)

"ר' יהודה אומר: שלש ברכות חייב אדם לברך בכל יום: ברוך שלא עשני גוי. ברוך שלא עשני בור. ברוך שלא עשני אשה. גוי – שנאמר "כל הגוים כאין נגדו כאפס ותהי נחשבו לו" (ישעיהו מ, יז). בור – שאין בור ירא חטא. אשה – שאין הנשים חייבות במצות".

7. t. Ber. 6:18 (trans. Neusner, modified, 1.40)

R. Judah Says, "A man must recite three benedictions every day: Praised [etc.] who did not make me a gentile. Praised [etc.] who did not make me an ignorant. Praised [etc.] who did not make me a woman. A gentile, as it says: *All the nations are nothing before him, they are accounted by him as nothing and emptiness* (Isa 40:17). An ignorant, for an ignorant does not fear sin. A woman, for women are not obligated in the commandments.

הן גוים כמר מדלי, וכשחק מאזנים נחשבו; הן אים, כדק יטול.

ולבנון, אין די בער; וסיתו--אין די, עולה.

כל-הגוים, כאין נגדו; מאפס וטהו, נחשבו-לו.

ואל-מי, תדמיון אל; ומה-דמות, תערכו לו.

8. Isaiah 40:15-18

Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance; behold the isles are as a mote in weight. And Lebanon is not sufficient fuel, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for burnt-offerings. All the nations are as nothing before Him; they are accounted by Him as things of nought, and vanity. To whom then will ye liken God? Or what likeness will ye compare unto Him?

9. Fourth Ezra 6:56-57

56 For the other nations which have descended from Adam, You have said that they are nothing, and that they are like spittle, and You have compared their abundance to *a drop of a bucket*. 57 And now, O Lord, these nations, which are reputed as *nothing*, domineer over us and devour.

10. Jubilees 22:16-22 (trans. Vanderkam, 132)

Now you, my son Jacob, remember what I say and keep the commandments of your father Abraham. Separate from the nations (*achzab, goyim*) and do not eat with them. Do not act as they do, and do not become their companion, for their actions are impure, and all their ways are defiled and something abominable and detestable. (17) They offer their sacrifices to the dead [...] (19) As for you, my son Jacob, may the most high God help you and the God of heaven bless you. May he remove you from their impurity and from all their error. (20) Be careful, my son Jacob, not to marry a woman from all the descendants of Canaan's daughter, because all of his descendants are (meant) for being uprooted from the earth. (21) For through Ham's sin Canaan erred [...] (22) There is no hope in the land of the living for all who worship idols and for those who are odious [...]