

# Immigration through the Lens of Faith



## Immigrants in the Jewish Texts

### Hebrew Bible

#### Exodus 23: 9

You must not oppress the stranger; you know how a stranger feels, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt.

#### Leviticus 19: 32-34

If a stranger lives with you in your land, do not molest him. You must count him as one of your own countrymen and love him as yourself—for you were once strangers yourselves in Egypt. I am Yahweh your God.

#### Psalms 82: 2-4

No more mockery of justice,  
no more favoring of the wicked!  
Let the weak and the orphan have justice,  
be fair to the wretched and destitute;  
rescue the weak and needy,  
save them from the clutches of the wicked!

#### Psalms 103: 6

Yahweh, who does what is right, is always on the side of the oppressed.

#### Proverbs 31: 8-9

Speak, yourself, on behalf of the dumb, on behalf of all the unwanted; speak, yourself, pronounce a just verdict, uphold the rights of the poor, of the needy.

#### Ecclesiasticus 4: 8-9

To the poor man lend an ear,  
and return his greeting courteously.  
Save the oppressed from the hand of the oppressor,  
and do not be mean-spirited in your judgments.

#### Isaiah 10: 1-2

Woe to the legislators of infamous laws,  
to those who issue tyrannical decrees,  
who refuse justice to the unfortunate  
and cheat the poor among my people of their rights,  
who make widows their prey,  
and rob the orphan.

#### Isaiah 61: 1-2

The spirit of the Lord Yahweh has been given to me,  
for Yahweh has anointed me.  
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,  
to bind up hearts that are broken;  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
freedom to those in prison;  
to proclaim a year of favor from Yahweh.

#### Jeremiah 22: 3

Yahweh says this: Practice honesty and integrity;  
rescue the man who has been wronged from the  
hands of his oppressor; do not exploit the stranger,  
the orphan, the widow; do no violence, shed no  
innocent blood in this place.

#### Micah 6: 8

What is good has been explained to you;  
this is what Yahweh asks of you:  
only this, to act justly,  
to love tenderly,  
and to walk humbly with your God.

#### Zechariah 7: 8-10

(The word of Yahweh was addressed to Zechariah as follows:) He said: Apply the law fairly, and practice kindness and compassion toward each other. Do not oppress the widow and the orphan, the settler and the poor man, and do not secretly plan evil against one another.