

What Does God's Word Say About the Displaced?

Old Testament

Exodus 22:21 (NLT)

"You must not mistreat or oppress foreigners in any way. Remember, you yourselves were once foreigners in the land of Egypt."

Leviticus 19:33–34 (NLT)

"Do not take advantage of foreigners who live among you in your land. Treat them like nativeborn Israelites, and love them as you love yourself. Remember that you were once foreigners living in the land of Egypt. I am the Lord your God."

Deuteronomy 10:18–19 (NLT)

"He ensures that orphans and widows receive justice. He shows love to the foreigners living among you and gives them food and clothing. So you, too, must show love to foreigners, for you yourselves were once foreigners in the land of Egypt."

Deuteronomy 27:19 (NLT)

"'Cursed is anyone who denies justice to foreigners, orphans, or widows.' And all the people will reply, 'Amen.'"

Psalm 146:9 (NLT)

"The Lord protects the foreigners among us. He cares for the orphans and widows, but he frustrates the plans of the wicked."

Jeremiah 22:3 (NLT)

"This is what the Lord says: Be fair-minded and just. Do what is right! Help those who have been robbed; rescue them from their oppressors. Quit your evil deeds! Do not mistreat foreigners, orphans, and widows. Stop murdering the innocent!"

New Testament

Matthew 25:35 (NLT)

"For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home."

Luke 4:18–19 (NLT)

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the Lord's favor has come."

Hebrews 13:2 (NLT)

"Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it!"

Romans 12:13 (NLT)

"When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality."

Ephesians 2:19 (NLT)

"So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family."

James 2:15-17 (NLT)

"Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, 'Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well'—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless."