

# Numbers 9:14

<https://thebiblesays.com/commentary/num/num-9/numbers-914/>

*The last principle concerning the Passover was that of a non-Israelite participating in the celebration. The LORD declared that they could observe the Passover according to the same rules that governed the Israelites' celebration.*

The situation in verse 14 was *if an alien sojourns among you* (v. 14). The phrase *alien sojourns* is literally “sojourner sojourns.” Both words are related to the Hebrew word “gur,” which means “to travel, sojourn” but also can mean “to dwell with” or “to inhabit.” This was probably a reference to those non-Israelites who had escaped Egypt when the Israelites were allowed to leave and were living amongst them (Exodus 12:38).

If an alien *observes the Passover to the Lord*, it must be done *according to the statute of the Passover and according to its ordinance*. The statutes concerning a non-Israelite celebrating Passover were laid down in Exodus 12:48 – 49. The key requirement was that the alien (just like the Israelite) had to be circumcised beforehand. Once this had been done, then *so he shall do*.

This addition of the *alien* being included in the Passover is likely a picture of the grafting-in of the Gentiles that came through Jesus, who is the true Passover Lamb. Today, Gentile believers around the world participate in the ordinance of communion, which came out of a Passover meal Jesus had with His disciples (Luke 22:1,14-20).

The controlling principle was this—there was to be *one statute, both for the alien and for the native of the land*. This was a restatement of the last phrase in Exodus 12:49.

## **Biblical Text**

**<sup>14</sup> If an alien sojourns among you and observes the Passover to the Lord, according to the statute of the Passover and according to its ordinance, so he shall do; you shall have one statute, both for the alien and for the native of the land.”**