

Ger (Proselyte) and Ger Toshav (Resident Alien)

Ref: *Sefer Kedushah, Hilchot Issurei Biah, Chapters 13 and 14*

The Jewish nation entered into Covenant with G-d through 3 acts i.e.

- Circumcision
- *Mikveh* (Immersion)
- Sacrifice

So too when a convert wants to take shelter under the wings of the Divine Presence and accept the yoke of Torah i.e. convert, he/she must do these 3 acts.

The convert must immerse in the presence of 3 men. This must be in a *Bet Din*, which consists of 3 ordinary men.

Now that the Temple is destroyed, we do not need to bring a sacrifice, but in the Third Temple this will again be necessary.

Similarly, a servant and freed servants must follow the above procedures.

I.e. Canaanite servant immerses in front of 3 judges (and become circumcised). It is a partial conversion.

When he is eventually freed he immerses a second time in front of 3 men and his conversion is now completed.

The rules of immersion for converts and servants are just as strict as observed by a woman *nidah*.

Reminder:

Pack on Purification



Procedure

Details of explanations which are given to the convert before immersion.

A *ger toshav* (resident alien) is a Gentile who accepts not to worship false gods and, more specifically, accepts to take on observance of the Noachide Laws.

He does not circumcise or immerse and is considered as a pious Gentile (*mechasidei umot haolam*).

A Canaanite servant is questioned slightly differently but is also asked if he wants to be part of Judaism. If yes, he is converted like a convert. If not, he is given 12 months. If after this time he still does not accept Judaism, he is sold to Gentiles.

Freed Servants are like converts.