

Alien, Orphan and Widow



Reader 1:	O Lord,
All:	how long shall the wicked exult?
Reader 4:	They kill the widow
Reader 2:	and the stranger,
Reader 3:	they murder the orphan,
All:	He will repay them for their iniquity
Reader 1:	and wipe them out for their wickedness;
All:	the LORD our God will wipe them out.
Reader 1:	Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel:
All:	Amend your ways and your doings,
Reader 2:	and let me dwell with you in this place.
Reader 3:	for if you truly amend your ways and your doings
Reader 4:	if you truly act justly with one another,
Reader 2:	if you do not oppress the alien,
Reader 3:	the orphan,
Reader 4:	and the widow,
All:	then I will dwell with you in this place.
Reader 1:	Thus says the Lord:
All:	Act with justice and righteousness,
Reader 1:	and deliver from the hand of the oppressor anyone who has been robbed.
Reader 2:	And do no wrong or violence to the alien,

Reader 3:	the orphan,
Reader 4:	and the widow,
Reader 1:	or shed innocent blood in this place.
All:	Then I will draw near to you for judgment;
Reader 1:	I will be swift to bear witness
All:	against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages,
Reader 4:	the widow,
Reader 3:	and the orphan,
Reader 2:	against those who thrust aside the alien,
Reader 1:	and do not fear me,
All:	says the Lord of hosts.
Reader 1:	You shall not deprive
Reader 2:	a resident alien
Reader 3:	or an orphan of justice;
Reader 4:	you shall not take a widow's garment in pledge.
All:	When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field,
Reader 1:	you shall not go back to get it;
Reader 2:	it shall be left for the alien,
Reader 3:	the orphan,
Reader 4:	and the widow.
All:	When you beat your olive trees,
Reader 1:	do not strip what is left;
Reader 2:	it shall be for the alien,

Reader 3:	the orphan,
Reader 4:	and the widow.
All:	When you gather the grapes of your vineyard,
Reader 1:	do not glean what is left;
Reader 2:	it shall be for the alien,
Reader 3:	the orphan,
Reader 4:	and the widow.
All:	Cursed be anyone who deprives the alien, the orphan, and the widow of justice. All the people shall say, Amen!