

“God Loves Foreigners”

Isaiah 2:1-3

INTRODUCTION:

My 1991 experience when I (a foreigner) came to Canada . . .

I. A MAJOR THEME OF THE BIBLE:

FOREIGNERS WELCOME

- A. Note the Old Testament:
Isaiah 2:1-3; 66:18-23; 11:10; 42:6; 60:3
- B. Note the New Testament:
Matthew 2:1-2; 8:11; Luke 10:30-37; 17:16-17
- C. Note the first Church controversy:
are foreigners welcome? (Acts 15)

II. THE GOSPEL IS INTENDED FOR EVERYONE

- A. Romans 3:23
- B. Romans 6:23
- C. 2 Peter 3:9

III. HAVING ***FOREIGNERS*** IN OUR MIDST IS AT TIMES NOT VALUED

- A. Cultural differences
- B. Anxiety due to the unknown
- C. Looking back to the “good old days”
- D. Congregational challenges

IV. BUT WHO IS ***THE FOREIGNER??***

- A. We were once foreigners to God’s Kingdom
(Isaiah 11:42; 60; 66; Matthew 8)
- B. Our sin also makes us “foreigners” (Romans 5:6-8)
- C. Jesus is at our side as we reach out to “foreigners”
- D. God’s love and forgiveness draws us foreigners to the Cross

CONCLUSION:

A vision of heaven: a crowd of “foreigners” (Rev. 7:9-12)

