

United Nations Convention on Refugees, 1951

Who Are Refugees?

People who leave their home country owing to a well founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality or membership in a particular social group or political opinion.



Is That All?

No!

In addition, many aid organizations recognize displaced people who never cross a political border but who live as "outcasts" due to military conflict, religious oppression, nationality, racial or political identity, or natural disaster.

How Many Live as Refugees?

1980 16 Million

2012 44 Million

That is more than the combined populations of New York, L.A., Chicago, Houston, Phoenix, Philadelphia, San Antonio, San Diego, Dallas, San Jose..., and the next 40 largest American cities



Ezekiel 47:21-23

So, What Does God Say?

"You are to distribute this land among yourselves according to the tribes of Israel. You are to allot it as an inheritance for yourselves and for the aliens who have settled among you and who have children.



Ezekiel 47:21-23

So, What Does God Say?

You are to consider them as native-born Israelites...
In whatever tribe the alien settles, there you are to give him his inheritance," declares the Sovereign Lord.



Leviticus 19:34

So, What Does God Say?

When an alien lives with you in your land, do not mistreat him. The alien living with you must be treated as one of your native-born. Love him as yourself, for you were aliens in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.



What Does This Mean For Us?

- 1. We are people delivered from living as refugees.
- Lev 19:34
- 2. The gospel embraces the whole person not just the spiritual.

 Jam. 2:15-16

What Does This Mean For Us?

- 3. The gospel tears down human barriers to create a divine unity. Gal 3:28
- 4. We are judged by compassion as fully as we are judged by truth

 Matt. 25:31-40

