

SERMON OUTLINE

Speaker: Dr Calvin Chong

Text : Exodus 23: 9; Deuteronomy 10: 19; Revelation 5: 9 - 10
Title : A Christian Response To The Plight
And Presence Of Foreign Workers

1. Introduction

Section 5 of The Cape Town Commitment

People are on the move as never before. Migration is one of the great global realities of our era. It is estimated that 200 million people are living outside their countries of origin, voluntarily or involuntarily. The term 'diaspora' is used here to mean people who have relocated from their lands of birth for whatever reason. Some relocate permanently, and others, like three million international students and scholars, temporarily. Vast numbers of people from many religious backgrounds, including Christians, live in diaspora conditions: economic migrants seeking work; internally-displaced peoples because of war or natural disaster; refugees and asylum seekers; victims of ethnic cleansing; people fleeing religious violence and persecution; famine sufferers – whether caused by drought, floods, or war; victims of rural poverty moving to cities. We are convinced that contemporary migrations are within the sovereign missional purpose of God, without ignoring the evil and suffering that can be involved.

Rev 5:9 *“You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. ¹⁰ You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.”*

2. Current Thinking on Reaching and Responding to the Global Diaspora

2.1 Mission to the Diaspora

When local churches and Christian organizations reach out to foreigners at our doorsteps

Contrasting scenarios give clues to our response...

... through collective responsibility and organized efforts

... by taking and exercising personal responsibility

“MOM Employer Guidelines, Christian Considerations and Practical Applications”

i) Non-Coverage by the Employment Act, ii) Disputes, iii) Levy, Termination, Repatriation and Security Bond, iv) Mandatory Rest Day, v) Accommodation, vi) Medical Care, vii) Employment Contracts, viii) Monthly salary, ix) Illegal Deployment

http://rhc.org.sg/sites/default/files/resources/RHC_FDW%20Manual_online%20version.pdf

Exo. 23:9 *"Do not oppress a foreigner; you yourselves know how it feels to be foreigners, because you were foreigners in Egypt.*

Deut. 10:19 *And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt.*

2.2 Mission through the Diaspora

When professionals, students, migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, trafficked persons who are converted reach out to their own kind in a foreign land or back in their home nations when they eventually return

Yaw Perbi's *Thinking Outside the Window: A Riveting Personal Transcontinental Experience of How the Mission of Changing the World has Changed – and Why You Will Want to, Also!*

2.3 Mission beyond the Diaspora

When professionals, students, migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers, trafficked persons who are converted reach out beyond their own kind to other ethnic communities either in a foreign land or back in their countries of origin

Contra the impact of what we are doing badly with what others are doing with passion!