

— Ezekiel 16.1-15 —  
Contemporary Issues 3  
**Thinking Biblically About Immigration**

*Ezekiel 16.3 'Thus says the Lord GOD to Jerusalem: "Your birth and your nativity are from the land of Canaan; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite ... 6 And when I passed by you and saw you struggling in your own blood, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' Yes, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' 7 I made you thrive like a plant in the field; and you grew, matured, and became very beautiful ... 8 ... so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness. Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine," says the Lord GOD ... 10 I clothed you in embroidered cloth and gave you sandals of badger skin ... 13 Thus you were adorned with gold and silver, and your clothing was of fine linen, silk, and embroidered cloth. You ate pastry of fine flour, honey, and oil. You were exceedingly beautiful, and succeeded to royalty. 14 Your fame went out among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect through My splendor which I had bestowed on you," says the Lord GOD. 15 "But you trusted in your own beauty, played the harlot because of your fame, and poured out your harlotry on everyone passing by who would have it."*

\* What do we see in the current immigration debate?

\* What do we see with Christians?

\* As Christians, how should we approach guilt? Wisdom?

\* What principles does the Bible give us regarding immigration?

- (1) Seek first ...
  - This requires ... but excludes ...
  - Christian faith does not endure if ...
- (2) The kingdom is meant to ... and so are Christian nations.
  - A city on a hill is ...
  - God contemplated that foreigners would be ...

◦ A nation professing to be Christian should ...

- (3) Aliens should be treated ...
- (4) Legal immigration and citizenship should be granted according wisdom, balancing several considerations:
  - (a) A general posture of ...
  - (b) The welfare of the ...
    - Overlooked in the immigration debate is ...
  - (c) Wariness toward those who ...

\* Final thoughts.