

# **Immigration**

I will tell you this, right at the outset: I strongly *affirm and support* the right of any person to seek *lawful* entry into this country, as well as permanent residence status with full citizenship, when obtained through *lawful, constitutional* processes. Just as strongly, I oppose all **ILLEGAL** immigration and all forms of amnesty. There are four simple points to be made in this essay, all of which are taught and supported by the Bible;

1. A nation has the legitimate *right* to maintain and control its own borders (1a. “open *borders*” is a nonsense term, self-negating)
2. A nation has the *duty to protect and serve its citizenry*, and protection/defense starts with the security of entry/exit points
3. Bad behavior rewarded is bad behavior approved and fostered
4. Good behavior *should* be rewarded

Points #1 & #2: God grants the right of national border control for the express purpose of protecting its law-abiding citizens. This protection applies to not only their very lives, but also to their property. So in addition to the 6th Commandment against murder and bodily harm, witness both the 8th and 10th Commandments, “Thou shalt not steal” and “Thou shalt not covet” (that is, *think* about getting something that’s desired in an UNLAWFUL way, which is stealing). Stealing always involves coveting first, and in the context of ILLEGAL immigration, this makes all the difference: do it lawfully, through proper, legal channels, and you do no wrong; welcome, and go in peace, friend to this country. But do it any other way, and you indeed do much wrong, no matter how you try to spin it; you are neither to be welcomed nor admitted without the legal consequences, and you are no true friend of this nation of law-abiding citizens, we who are to benefit from government protection.

Continuing the thought, we are now moving into Points 3 & 4 territory. If anyone has even the *slightest* familiarity with the Word of God — The Holy Bible — one clear message throughout the 66 books is that bad/evil/unlawful/illegal behavior is anti-God, displeases Him, is considered by Him to be no less than sin, and is destructive to human society; it is to be avoided at all costs, punished (in a lawful/legal manner), and *NEVER condoned or rewarded*. The reason is obvious to every conscience in minimal working order: if you *do* condone or reward bad behavior, more of the same will naturally follow, and at an increased rate. Human beings *need* STOP signs. We *don't* know the best course of action unless we get it from God via His Biblical instructions or are channeled towards it via His *gift* of conscience. The “Open Borders” crowd pushes God and His gift right out of the picture, and it *encourages* coveting and stealing, lying cover-ups, racism (*La Raza, THE [latino] Race*),

and even — all too often — murder. How does *any* of this benefit the law-abiding citizens of this sovereign nation in *any* sense? The rhetoric of all of these Soros-funded groups and fellow travelers is not only insultingly simplistic and off-target, but devoid of truth. We, the people, are to let all of that ILLEGAL behavior go so we can have cheap lettuce?!? No crops would be otherwise harvested, no motels would be cleaned, no residential construction would take place, if we got back to enforcing the immigration laws duly passed by our elected congress?!? [*oh,...don't even mention* Osama Obama's executive *scamnesty*; the scammer-in-chief is ILLEGAL ALIEN #1!!!!]

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Okay, let's look instead at the second group of true *victims* of the current immigration scenario, the usually-forgotten would-be good American citizens who have endured/are enduring the

*legal* path to entry and citizenship, those who've had to have had the "patience of Job." What else can we call it when some have waited in hope — and so far, in vain — for *two decades* to *legally* obtain their great desire, and to *add* to this country's growth, and not to bring it down? I say, God bless every one of *them*! I have been moved to tears at the contemplation of such an individual when combined with the realization of God's grace towards *me* in making me the son of *Christian* parents *in America*. But in upwards of 75% of all the immigration policy literature, I'd venture to say, this *third* group is left out entirely. It seems that *both* of the warring parties on the issue have chosen to ignore those with the best intentions. I ran across a copy of a post I submitted when the "Gang of Eight" bill was being debated in the media. Here's what I wrote then:

*Nowhere in Scripture do we see a*

*command to reward lawbreaking and forfeit defense of law-abiding people. Whatever case can be made for illegal immigrants who are “just providing for their families” can just as easily be made for “hit men” and thieves who prefer stealing over honest work. Make no mistake, every illegal alien is at least a criminal trespasser and would-be thief, and too many are criminals of even a murderous sort. Wake up, and do right by those who are usually left out of this discussion: those who are abiding by the laws and due process to gain admission to this country and help it, not take from it!*

We can leave it at that, but if you want to ascend to a higher level and get the *full Biblical picture* (sound exegesis), I can do no better than to recommend ***The Immigration Crisis***, by James K. Hoffmeier (Crossway, 2009). As usual, I defer to someone who has said it better.