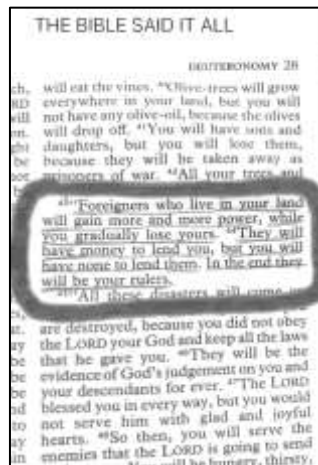


Strangers in Your Country

There is a popular meme circulating on social media that depicts a passage from the “Good News Translation” of the bible. The highlighted section comes from the book of Deuteronomy 28:43-44. In short, the verses warn that foreigners who live in your land will take over and be your rulers. Most of us are aware of the serious migration problem at our Southern border, and it seems that this graphic is aimed at making a political statement concerning this issue. Even though the principle itself could be true, this is a flagrant misuse of scripture, and for those unfamiliar with the biblical story, it can be very misleading. First, these verses come from a warning and a curse to God’s people for their disobedience. The very next verse says that this invasion has happened “because you did not serve the Lord your God with joy and gladness of heart.” So, if we’re going to make modern day application, then the cause of our present “migration invasion” is due to unfaithfulness to the Lord. Second, the reading comes from the Old Testament Law, the law that God used to govern the nation of Israel, and is not applicable to Christians. (Gal. 4:8-11; Eph. 2:15; Col. 2:14; Heb. 8:3-13) We must be very, very careful when sharing religious information, especially in a public forum like social media. As seen in this case, we could be misusing the scriptures and teaching unbelievers things that are untrue.



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