

A THEOLOGY AS BIG AS THE CITY: RAY BAKKE

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Great Migrations:

The world is Asianising as fast as it is urbanising.

A move away from a world of nations to a world of interconnected multinational cities

Nearly all ministry from now on will be cross-cultural; Mission no longer about crossing oceans but streets.

Urbanism is the great magnifier.

Moses: exodus movement began with women having illegal revolutionary babies.

Koine Greek was like Swahili now is in East Africa – the trading language.

80% Middle East 12million Christians are Egyptians, St Mark went to Alexandria. Cairo St Mark Cathedral. Tomb of St Mark.

EARLY URBAN MISSION

Letter to Diognetus 140AD

They do not live in cities of their own. They live in Greek and barbarian cities alike.. but only as aliens. Every foreign land is their fatherland.. To put it simply: what the soul is in the body that Christians are in the world. The soul is dispersed through all the members of the body, and Christians are scattered through all the cities of the world.

2nd Century Egyptian Women Deacons

Offered to nurse children in public squares; others collected the abandoned and raised them.

Tertullian 3rd Century

Christians he says have penetrated everybody's space apart from the pagan temples.

THE URBAN CHRISTIAN: 1987

Hbw and Greek words for city mentioned 1,200 times, referring to 119 different cities.

Sacred Place is strong in bible: Bethel is house of God.

A BIBLICAL WORD FOR AN URBAN WORLD (Valley Forge, 2000)

1900: over 80% Christians white, western, northern.

1998: over 80% world's active Christians outside west, non-white and non-northern. according to Paul Marshall International Bulletin of Missionary Research, Jan 1998.

Being chosen by God does not mean we are favourites of God!

Heaven is where we're all going to see the big picture.

Three Persians (not Arabs) from Iran. Esther, Ezra, Nehemiah.

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