*Intro:*

<u>Main Point of Text:</u>     God's covenant citizens must treat aliens as equals because He rescued them from foreign slavery.

<u>Sermon Point:</u>           *Do Not Vex Our Visitors.*

*Move 1:*          *Rule yourselves in how you respond to strangers.*
Gen. 23:1-15 instead of Gen. 26:15-22.  Lev. 19:33-34a: "stranger": alien, foreigner.  "soujourn/dwelleth": stay around "with thee in your land". Vs. 34a: shall be treated as if natural born citizens.  Maybe figure of speech (Lev. 18:1-3, 24-30).  If immigrants, non-citizens, must not be alienated: Ex. 20:10.  Need to become naturalized citizens for full benefits: Ex. 12:43-50; don't treat as second class.  Heb. 11:13; 1 Pet. 1:1, 17; 2:11: God's people are always strangers and pilgrims on this earth.  Whatever our native country, we should never "vex" (oppress, vs. 33) anyone.  They did: Ezek. 22:29-30).

*Move 2:*          *Don't forget the LORD's Second Greatest rule.*
Vs. 34: "thou shalt love him as thyself", the Second Greatest Commandment, <u>vs. 18</u> (Mt. 22:39).  Context: no avenging, bearing grudge, resenting.  God says this applies to strangers/visitors.  Deut. 10:17-19.  The Lord loves strangers, so should you. Ps. 146:9: *The LORD preserveth the strangers …* So should you. Especially as the Church: *Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.* (Col. 3:11) 1 Cor. 12:13.

*Move 3:*          *Remember to apply Christ's Golden Rule.*
Vs. 34: "for ye were strangers in land of Egypt" Ex. 22:21; 23:9. Foreigners should not be taken advantage of for cheap labor: Mal. 3:5; see <u>Lev. 19:13</u>.  "I am the LORD your God": Ex. 20:1 and Deut. 5:6, thus 15. God made them and He made us; we are not self made. Golden Rule: *Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.* (Mat. 7:12) Acts 13:17; Eph. 2:19; 2:12.

*Conclusion:*

3 John 1:5; Heb. 13:2.

***Do Not Vex Our Visitors.***