



Volume 61 | Issue 1

Article 110

5-1-2018

Das and Hamounds' "Strangers in the kingdom: Ministering to refugees, migrants, and the stateless" (book review)

Leslie Starasta
Lincoln Christian University

The Christian Librarian is the official publication of the Association of Christian Librarians (ACL). To learn more about ACL and its products and services please visit [//www.acl.org/](http://www.acl.org/)

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl>

 Part of the [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Missions and World Christianity Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Starasta, Leslie (2018) "Das and Hamounds' "Strangers in the kingdom: Ministering to refugees, migrants, and the stateless" (book review)," *The Christian Librarian*: Vol. 61 : Iss. 1 , Article 110.

Available at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl/vol61/iss1/110>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Christian Librarian by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact arolfe@georgefox.edu.

Book Reviews



Das, R. & Hamoud, B. (2017). *Strangers in the kingdom: Ministering to refugees, migrants, and the stateless*. Carlisle, UK: Langham Global Library. 116 pp. \$19.99. ISBN 9781783682775

Strangers in the Kingdom is the combined effort of Rupen Das, professor at Tyndale University College and Seminary and Brent Hamoud who works with refugee, migrant, and stateless children in Beirut, Lebanon. Their combined expertise in both Bible and theology, as well as on the ground experience working with refugees and the stateless, provides an engaging and thought provoking look at the global issue of refugees. This issue is examined from the viewpoints of the biblical and theological mandate to care for displaced peoples and missiological principles for working with refugees. In addition specific examples of how churches are engaged in these efforts are provided.

Strangers in the Kingdom is divided into two parts. Part I: Foundations for Ministries to the Displaced lays a strategic and firm foundation by introducing the topic and then providing a very thorough explanation of the terminology and international agreements related to this issue. This section alone and the clear delineation of terms makes this an important book to read. After providing this important background information, Das and Hamoud proceed to explore the biblical, theological, and missiological foundations for ministry. Das expounds on these topics in more detail in his book *Compassion and the Mission of God* (Langham, 2016). Throughout this section, *Strangers in the Kingdom* is extremely well-researched and documented. Das and Hamoud also provide emotionally gripping vignettes which help introduce each topic. The addition of excellent questions for reflection and discussion help readers to move beyond a solely intellectual approach to the topic to consider practical application of the information. Part II: Ministries to Refugees, Migrants, and the Stateless takes the theoretical information and provides ministry based examples of churches and individuals in Canada, several European countries, and the Middle East who are engaged with this issue. The non-U.S. viewpoint provided by the authors and the examples given are most enlightening and reminds readers that refugees are truly a global issue which demands a global response.

Rupen Das brings his vast experience with World Vision, Canadian Baptist Ministries, and European Baptist Federation as well as his academic credentials as a Research Professor of Social Justice, Compassion, and Development. Co-author Brent Hamoud works with Kids Alive International in Lebanon, an organization whose work is highlighted. Strongly recommended as an addition to libraries that provide resources for theology or current topics, *Strangers in the Kingdom* provides a concise scholarly introduction to this issue for readers who have a foundational understanding of biblical and theological topics and willingness to consider other perspectives. The bibliography will assist readers who wish to delve further into the topic. In addition, *Strangers in the Kingdom* would be an excellent choice for a textbook for a course on current issues facing the church or reading materials for a discussion group or task force on these topics.

Reviewer

Leslie Starasta, Lincoln Christian University