

Xenos: the Alien

Identification + confrontation

By Dennis McCallum

Xenos means "alien" or "foreigner," and is used in Hebrews 11:13 to describe the saints of old who "confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth."

The teaching in that passage is that no truly Biblical form of Christianity could ever feel at home in the fallen world system. In other words, the message of the gospel should confront the evil world with something altogether contrary to its values. This message should be so radically different that it is, in essence, irreconcilable with any part of the world system.

In John, chapter 15, we read, "If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, the world hates you." And in Luke 6: "Beware when all men speak well of you, for in the same way their fathers used to treat the false prophets."

