



*Untamed Hospitality:
Welcoming God and Other Strangers*

1558, Jan Massys





Abraham and Sarah, Genesis 18

A Letter to Diognetus
(the 2nd /3rd century)

Christians are indistinguishable from others either by nationality, language or customs. They do not inhabit separate cities of their own, or speak a strange dialect, or follow some outlandish way of life. ... With regard to dress, food and manner of life in general, they follow the customs of whatever city they happen to be living in, whether it is Greek or foreign.

And yet there is something extraordinary about their lives. They live in their own countries as though they were only passing through. They play their full role as citizens, but labor under all the disabilities of aliens. Any country can be their homeland, but for them their homeland, wherever it may be, is a foreign country. Like others, they marry and have children, but they do not expose them. They share their meals, but not their wives...

They live in poverty, but enrich many; they are totally destitute, but possess an abundance of everything...They are attacked by the Jews as aliens, they are persecuted by the Greeks, yet no one can explain the reason for this hatred.



Acts 4:32-35

Life in Community, Aidan
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