

Church Growth

Acts 9:31

March 7, 2021

What is wrong with our culture? And why?

The American Evangelical church is a mile wide and an inch deep.

What was the Worldview of our Founding Fathers?

How do you judge the success of the church? What are the benchmarks?

What are they in v 31?

Church growth is measured in character - Christ-like character.

What is the Context of v 31?

How is v 31 a summary, and an assessment of the church?

'Church' is Singular, why?

What was Luke's summary report?

Paraphrase: "The church had peace and was built up. They were walking in the fear of the Lord and the comfort of the Holy Spirit and they were growing."

Peace

Peace can mean the comfort and rest of the gospel. (Philippians 4:7; Romans 5:1-2)

But, I think it means the absence of persecution

The apostles escorted Saul to Caesarea and then to Tarsus. (Acts 22:17-21)

What will we do with our peace?

Our time of persecution is coming.

We are becoming the enemy of a bitter and angry messianic state.

The Church was Built up, Edified.

How? Teaching and preaching. Doctrine and service. (Acts 2:42, 46)

Walking in Fear of Lord

The church was giving God his due. Honoring him.

Walking in humble boldness before our awesome God.

A Market Driven Church does not Produce These Things

Being a living member of the church - Head and heart and hands.

The Comfort of the Holy Spirit

It is Gospel ministered to us daily.

Increasing/ Multiplied

The church ought to grow, under the blessing of the Spirit of God.

What are we to do with our peace?

How will the church grow and multiply?