

1. The intrance of the gospel into Antioch reveals several things. We discover:

1. EVIL OVERRULED FOR GOOD. Gen. 50:20; Romans 8:28

1. The Evil: "The persecution that arose about Stephen." 7th chapter gives full account.
2. The taste of blood whets the appetite of the wild beast.
3. There was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem. Acts 8:1

2. THE INVINCIBILITY OF CHRISTIAN COURAGE

1. These disciples had fled from Jerusalem. Acts 8:4

(1) Suffering may bring nobility of Character as its fruitage Acts 11:19 Matt. 10:23

2. The fled from their persecutors. Acts 8:1-3

(2) Or it may bring bitterness of soul. It all depends on the attitude of Acts 11:19

the sufferer. 3. They did not flee from the cause they espoused, or relax in their efforts to advance it.

Acts 8:4

Acts 11:19,20

(1) They knew their cause was an unpopular one.

(2) They knew that it would excite the same ire that it awoke in Jerusalem. It is only when your heart keeps right that every cloud will

3. THE POWER OF LAY PREACHING bear a rainbow.

1. Who were these men who travelled as far as Phenice and Antioch preaching the word?

2. Were they Apostles? Were they in any sense what we would call official ministers of Christ?

3. THESE MEN WERE: The common disciples of Christ; the common members of the church at Jerusalem. THIS SHOWS:

(1) That it is the duty of every man who knows the gospel to proclaim it. That those who would restrict the work of preaching to the professional, ordained, arrogant, authoritarian, injurious, antagonistic to new gospel history

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