Are We Building It GREAT?

Acts 11:19-26

What is a <u>GREAT</u> <u>CHURCH</u> anyway?

Let's look at <u>SEVEN</u> <u>THINGS</u> that made the Early N.T. Church one of the <u>GREATEST</u> the world has Ever Known <u>AND</u> see How <u>Bethel</u> <u>Baptist</u> stacks up...

1. THEY HAD A GREAT *PURPOSE*.

- Their *Purpose* was encompassed in one phrase, "OBEY the Savior."
- Thru their <u>Obedience</u> they obtained the <u>Promise</u> (Acts 1:8)
- Bethel Baptist has the SAME PURPOSE ... to Help people get to Heaven.

2. THEY HAD GREAT *PRAYER*. (Acts 12:1-10)

- The church people Offered CONSTANT Prayers to God for Peter.
- YOU have <u>ACCESS</u> to the throne of God.
- Never <u>Underestimate</u> the POWER of <u>PRAYER</u>.

3. THEY HAD GREAT PREACHING.

- Peter was an Ordinary man & not really a Great Preacher...
- Peter's Preaching <u>Exalted</u> our Great <u>Savior</u>...<u>Encouraged</u> Great <u>Servants</u> & <u>Exposed</u> Great <u>Sin</u> & people <u>Responded</u>!

4. THEY HAD GREAT POWER.

- This Power depends upon CLEAN LIFE.
- This Power also depends on a CONSISTENT WALK.
- This Great Power also depends on CONTINUAL ASKING. (Luke 11:9-13)

5. THEY HAD GREAT <u>PERSECUTION</u>. (Acts 11:19)

- Jesus Said to His disciples, "In the world you shall have Tribulation."
- Jesus May NOT Ask us to <u>DIE</u> for Him, He DOES Ask us to <u>LIVE</u> for Him...

6. THEY HAD GREAT <u>PEOPLE</u>.

- They were Willing to Give up their Very Life's WORK.
- They were Willing to Give Up Worldly WEALTH.
- They were Willing to Give Up their Very <u>LIVES</u>.
- Bethel Baptist has a Great <u>Message</u>, a Great <u>Mission</u> & Great <u>Members</u>.

7. THEY HELD TO GREAT <u>PROMISES</u>.

- They had a *Promise* of <u>Heaven</u>, and so do we.
- They had a *Promise* of the <u>Holy Spirit</u>, and so do we.
- They had a Promise of Genuine Happiness, and so do we. (1 John 2:25)
- Do you want to <u>Become Part</u> of something <u>GREAT</u> God is Doing HERE?