

## **The Peace and Purity of the Church**

**Acts 21:17-26**

**October 10, 2021**

How do we maintain the peace and purity of the Church?

How do we interact with true Christian traditions other than our own?

What are Paul's, Biblical Principles for promoting Peace and Unity without compromise? (1 Cor 10:32-11:1; 9:19-23).

We bend, as far as we can, so that that truth can be heard (Romans 14:2-6).

Unity amidst diversity. Peace even with differing convictions.

“In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.”

What are the essentials and what are the non-essentials.

Paul here was following the ceremonial law, seeking to be purified and supporting others in a Nazirite vow.

But was Paul wrong here?

### **Delighting in God's Work v 17-20a**

Paul was welcomed by the elders at Jerusalem.

They delighted in the work of God in another people.

### **Delighting in the Peace of the Church v 20b-24**

The gossip and slander regarding Paul and what he taught.

Circumcision was a matter of indifference to Paul.

Jewish Customs and Culture

### **Delighting in the Purity of the Church v 25**

James knew what he was asking Paul to do. Now he qualifies it.

### **Delighting in a Different Expression of the Church v 26**

Paul walked as a Jew when he was among the Jewish Christians.

It is like playing with legos.

What are some false essentials?

**Application:**

How are we to interact with other Christian traditions?