

Church History, Lesson 30
Current Trends in Evangelicalism

Introduction... Today we are going to wrap up our series on church history by discussing some current trends in Christianity today.

- What are some negatives that you have seen in the Christian landscape during your lifetime?
- What about positives in your lifetime?

Missions –

- Indigenous Missions
- Sending nations...
 - An increasing number of missionaries are sent from the global south.
 - Very often these countries are sending missionaries to minister to diaspora populations.
- The globalization of Christianity...
 - see infographic from Center for the Study of Global Christianity

Shallowness of much of Evangelicalism...

- We talked last week about the trend coming out of the post-war era of a “suburbanized”, comfortable Christianity.
- What are some of the evidences of this shallowness?

Resurgence of serious Christianity... “The Young, Restless, and Reformed”

- Donald S. Whitney, pastor / professor... my first introduction to Calvinism... gave me Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God by J.I. Packer
- **Together for the Gospel**
 - **2006** – 2,000 – 3,000
 - **2016** – 10,000
- **The Gospel Coalition** – One of the most visited Christian web-sites in the world.
- John MacArthur has said that the current resurgence of the doctrines of grace is the greatest revival since the Reformation.

Other trends...

- church based Christian colleges and seminaries:
 - Master’s College and Seminary, Grace Community Church, John MacArthur
 - Bethlehem College and Seminary, Bethlehem Baptist Church, John Piper
 - Reformed Bible College, St. Andrew’s Church, R.C. Sproul
- Church branding in church planting...