

## Stephen gives a History Lesson to the Sanhedrin

### **The War *between* Flesh (the Sanhedrin) and *Spirit* (Stephen); We are the Stone Throwers!**

**Acts 6:8** And Stephen, full of grace and power, was performing great wonders and signs among the people.

**9-11** But some men from what was called the Synagogue of the Freedmen, including both Cyrenians and Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and argued with Stephen. But they were unable to cope with the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. Then they secretly induced men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God."

**12** And they stirred up the people, the elders and the scribes, and they came up to him and dragged him away and brought him before the Council. They put forward false witnesses who said, "This man incessantly speaks against this holy place and the Law; for we have heard him say that this Nazarene, Jesus, will destroy this place and alter the customs which Moses handed down to us."

**15** And fixing their gaze on him, all who were sitting in the Council saw his face like the face of an angel.

**Acts 7:1** The high priest said, "Are these things so?"

**2-5** And he said, "Hear me, ~~brethren~~ **brothers** and fathers! The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, and said to him, 'Leave your country and your relatives, and come into the land that I will show you.' Then he left the land of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran. From there, after his father died, God had him move to this country in which you are now living. But He gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot of ground, and yet, even when he had no child, He promised that He would give it to him as a possession, and to his descendants after him.

**8** And He gave him the covenant of circumcision; and so Abraham became the father of Isaac, and circumcised him on the eighth day; and Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob of the twelve patriarchs.

**9** "The patriarchs became jealous of Joseph and sold him into Egypt. Yet God was with him,

**14** Then Joseph sent word and invited Jacob his father and all his relatives to come to him, seventy-five persons in all.

**20** It was at this time that Moses was born; and he was lovely in the sight of God

**22** Moses was educated in all the learning of the Egyptians, and he was a man of power in words and deeds.

**23-24** But when he was approaching the age of forty, it entered his mind to visit his brethren, the sons of Israel. And when he saw one of them being treated unjustly, he defended him and took vengeance for the oppressed by striking down the Egyptian.

**25** And he supposed that his ~~brethren~~ **brothers** understood that God was granting them deliverance through him, but they did not understand.

**29** Moses fled and became an alien in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons.

**30** "After forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in the flame of a burning thorn bush.

- 35 "This Moses whom they disowned, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge?' is the one whom God sent to be both a ruler and a deliverer with the help of the angel who appeared to him in the thorn bush.
- 37 This is the Moses who said to the sons of Israel, 'God WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS.'
- 39 - 41 Our fathers were unwilling ~~to be obedient to~~ to **listen** to him, but repudiated him and in their hearts turned back to Egypt. At that time they made a calf and brought a sacrifice to the idol, and were rejoicing in the works of their hands.
- 44 "Our fathers had the tabernacle of testimony in the wilderness, just as He who spoke to Moses directed him to make it according to the pattern which he had seen.
- 46 - 47 David found favor in God's sight, and asked that he might find a dwelling place for the God of Jacob. But it was Solomon who built a house for Him.
- 48 - 49 However, the Most High does not dwell in houses made by human hands; as the prophet says: 'HEAVEN IS MY THRONE, AND EARTH IS THE FOOTSTOOL OF MY FEET; WHAT KIND OF HOUSE WILL YOU BUILD FOR ME?' says the Lord, 'OR WHAT PLACE IS THERE FOR MY REPOSE?'
- 51 "You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always resisting ~~the~~ Holy Spirit; you are doing just as your fathers did.
- 52 Which one of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who had previously announced the coming of the Righteous One, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become;
- 53 you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it."
- 54 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the quick, and they began gnashing their teeth at him.
- 56 and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."
- Hebrews 1:3** When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high
- Hebrews 10:12** He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God
- 57 – 58 But they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears and rushed at him with one impulse. When they had driven him out of the city, they began stoning him; and the witnesses laid aside their robes at the feet of a young man named Saul.
- 59 - 60 They went on stoning Stephen as he called on the Lord and said, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" Having said this, he fell asleep.

**Acts 8:1** Saul was in hearty agreement with putting him to death.

**Galatians 5:17** The flesh sets its desire against *{i.e., wars against}* the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh