

STEPHEN'S SPEECH — ACTS 7:1-53

Accusations Against Stephen

BLASPHEME

1. God
2. Moses
3. The Law
4. The Temple

Stephen Weaves 4 Things Through the Whole Message:

1. Stephen has to gain their interest
2. Stephen answers the charges that he is a blasphemer
3. Stephen wants to indict them for killing their Messiah
4. Stephen wants to present Jesus Christ as the Messiah

A ABRAHAM TO JOSEPH - CAPTIVITY IN EGYPT

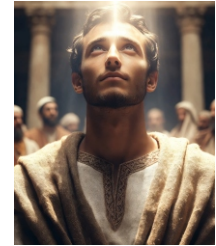
ACTS 7:2-16

1 Stephen Recites the History of Abraham (Ac.7:2-8)

- When speaking of God's nature, the glory is the composite of all His attributes
- Every Jew would trace back his heritage to one of the 12 patriarchs.

2 Stephen Presents Joseph's Life (Ac.7:9-16)

- The brothers rejected the one that God ordained to carry the birthright in the family.
- When they sold Joseph for envy, they blasphemed that which was sacred to God.



B MOSES TO THE PROPHETS - CAPTIVITY IN BABYLON

ACTS 7:17-50

1 Israel's Rejection of Moses at his 'First Coming' (Ac.7:17-29)

2 Moses' Role as Deliverer for Israel at his 'Second Coming' (Ac.7:30-36)

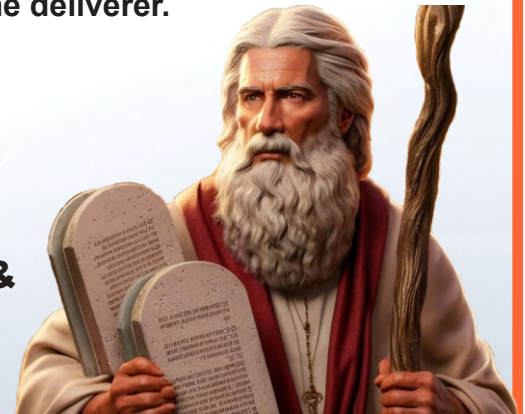
- They rejected Moses who was sent by the same God who made him to be the deliverer.

3 Israel's Repeated Rejection of Moses (Ac.7:37-43)

- Stephen presents Christ as the Messiah (v.37)
- Stephen defends himself against blaspheming the Law (v.38)
- From the time of the wilderness wandering to the Babylonian captivity, all those years in between, they just kept worshiping idols.

4 Though Israel Rejected God, They Still Had the Tabernacle & Temple (Ac.7:44-50)

- Stephen defends himself against blaspheming the Temple (v.44)
- Solomon's Temple was only temporary. God Himself had it wiped.



C STEPHEN APPLIES THE MESSAGE TO THE LISTENERS

ACTS 7:51-53

- To say to a Jew "stiff-necked" means they are resisting God.
- Which of the prophets have Israel persecuted? Every one of them.