



TRANSFORMATION

JOURNEY THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS



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WHAT IS THE COST?

ACTS 6:8-15, 7:51-60, 8:1-3

ACTS 6:8-15 (NIV)

Stephen Seized

⁸ Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹ Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen. ¹⁰ But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke.

¹¹ Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, "We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God."

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ACTS 6:8-15 (NIV)

¹² So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. ¹³ They produced false witnesses, who testified, “This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law. ¹⁴ For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us.”

¹⁵ All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

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ACTS 7:51-60 (NIV)

⁵¹ “You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! ⁵² Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him—
⁵³ you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it.”

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ACTS 7:51-60 (NIV)

The Stoning of Stephen

⁵⁴ When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

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ACTS 7:51-60 (NIV)

⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

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ACTS 8:1-3 (NIV)

¹ And Saul approved of their killing him.

The Church Persecuted and Scattered

On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. ² Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. ³ But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.

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1. PERSECUTION

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Arrest (5:18)

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Arrest (5:18)

Jail Break (5:19)

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1. PERSECUTION

Arrest (5:18)

Jail Break (5:19)

Tenacity (5:25)

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1. PERSECUTION

Arrest (5:18)

Jail Break (5:19)

Tenacity (5:25)

Fearless (5:29)

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2. PERSERVERANCE

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2. PERSERVERANCE

Acts 5:39

³⁹ But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.”

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2. PERSISTENCE

Acts 5:39

³⁹ But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.”

Acts 5:42

⁴² Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

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3. PURPOSE

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Stephen Seized

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Stephen Seized

Acts 6:15

All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

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4. THE LARGER STORY

a. Abraham

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4. THE LARGER STORY

a. Abraham

b. Isaac

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4. THE LARGER STORY

- a. Abraham
- b. Isaac
- c. Joseph

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4. THE LARGER STORY

- a. Abraham
- b. Isaac
- c. Joseph
- d. Moses/Aaron

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4. THE LARGER STORY

- a. Abraham
- b. Isaac
- c. Joseph
- d. Moses/Aaron
- e. Joshua

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4. THE LARGER STORY

- a. Abraham
- b. Isaac
- c. Joseph
- d. Moses/Aaron
- e. Joshua
- f. David

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4. THE LARGER STORY

- a. Abraham
- b. Isaac
- c. Joseph
- d. Moses/Aaron
- e. Joshua
- f. David
- g. Solomon

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4. THE LARGER STORY

- a. Abraham
- b. Isaac
- c. Joseph
- d. Moses/Aaron
- e. Joshua
- f. David
- g. Solomon
- h. God doesn't need a House

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Questions:



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Questions:

1. When you read the stories about Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, Solomon, do you see them as a part of your story or some good fictional characters to convey a nice truth?

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JOURNEY THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS

Questions:

1. When you read the stories about Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, Solomon, do you see them as a part of your story or some good fictional characters to convey a nice truth?
2. What does God want to reveal to you what he is doing on a micro and macro level in your life and in the world?

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Questions:

3. How does the story of Stephen
a) Impact you?

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Questions:

3. How does the story of Stephen
 - a) Impact you?
 - b) Inspire you?

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Questions:

3. How does the story of Stephen
 - a) Impact you?
 - b) Inspire you?
 - c) Cause fear in you?

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Questions:

3. How does the story of Stephen

a) Impact you?

b) Inspire you?

c) Cause fear in you?

4. Do you see the work of God in Stephen's story how do you see the work of God in your story?

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