

Stephen's Distinct Perspective - 6/25/23

Acts 6:8-7:8

I. Stephen Was a Man of Great _____ - 6:11-14

v.11-14 - Nothing was more _____ to the Jews than their _____ and the _____. It was so important that these _____ Jews had _____ to _____.

v.11-14 - Perhaps Stephen made comments like "We do not _____ to _____ more _____"; "The _____ of _____ cannot _____ us"; or "Believers' _____ are God's _____ more than _____ temple."

v.13-14 - Stephen realized the primary role of the Law and temple was to _____ our _____ and _____ us to _____ as God's _____ for it.

II. Stephen Was a Man of _____ - 6:15

v.15 means Stephen did not appear _____ or _____.

III. Stephen Presents _____ From _____ - 7:1-8

v.2 - God's dealing with Abraham illustrates that:

- God's _____ is not attached to a _____

- God _____ all _____ with Himself • _____ are in _____ when God initiates a relationship

v.2 - Abraham did not _____ after _____. He was an _____ in Mesopotamia (Joshua 24:2) when God _____ his _____ life. (Rom. 3:9-12)

Deuteronomy 7:6-8 - It is good to be a _____ descendent of Abraham, but Stephen knew they were not _____. God _____ and _____ them simply "_____".

v.3-4 - Salvation is God's _____ to an eternal _____ with Him. He calls people to _____ behind their _____ lives to _____ the _____ life He _____.

v.5 - Bruce writes "Abraham had no _____ object in which to trust: he _____ the _____ Word of God, and _____ upon it." God promised land for Abraham's descendants _____ he had _____, when _____ was _____, and they were _____.

v.6-7 - Sometimes God's _____ do not match our _____, but they are still _____. He may _____, but He always _____ them.

v.8 - Wiersbe writes "Abraham was saved by _____, through _____, and not because he was _____, kept a _____, or worshiped in a _____." _____ was merely a _____ of the covenant and _____ he _____ possessed. (Romans 4:9-12)