

A Radical Faith

Acts 6-7

Stephen: He was used by God because He was a man “full” of:

A. The H_____ S_____ - 6:3

Ephesians 3:14-19- “For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith--that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God”

B. W_____ - 6:3

C. F_____ - 6:5

Romans 1:17- "The righteous shall live by faith."

D. G_____ - 6:8

E. P_____ - 6:8

“power for performing miracles” “moral power and excellence of soul”

F. The W_____ - 7:1-53

He recounts the history of the Jewish people and the thread of Christ in the Scripture.

Because of Who He was, Stephen:

1. Was Willing to S_____ - 6:1-3

Matthew 25:21- “His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'”

2. Glorified God with a Singular Focus- 6:8-15

George Barna- Only 6% of people define success in relation to spirituality

Matthew 6:33- “But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

2 Cor. 2:15-16- “For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, 16 to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life.”

3. Boldly Proclaimed the T_____ - 7:51-53

4. Possessed Spiritual S_____ in the Midst of Spiritual Blindness- 7:55-56

“Behold I see the heavens opened up, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God”

Matthew 26:63-64- “But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, ‘I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.’ 64 Jesus said to him, ‘You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.’”

5. Considered Christ W_____ of Highest Honor-7:60

Phil. 3:8-“Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ”

Matthew 10:28- “And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.”

6. I_____ Christ- 7:58-60

- Stephen commended His spirit into the hands of the Lord Jesus.
- He loved while being hated. He was rooted and grounded in love- Ephesians 3.
- He uttered the same prayer for them as Christ offered His accusers. “Lord do not hold this sin against them.”

Psalms 23:4- Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Romans 8:35-39- Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

7. Left a Spiritual Legacy- 7:58-

Stephen’s last convert: Saul, who would be called Paul and become the greatest missionary in the history of the world.