

The image features a dark grey background with three overlapping circles in shades of blue. A white horizontal band runs across the center, containing the text "Welcome Family & Friends".

Welcome
Family & Friends

Stephen's Defense & Eventual Stoning (Acts 7) – Part 1

(Studies on the Book of Acts)

Review of previous lesson:

- We will see how Stephen stood out among the seven.
- We will discuss how some the Jews became angry at the teaching of Stephen.
- We will discuss the arrest of Stephen.

In this lesson:

- We will begin a study of Stephen's defense before the council and people.
- We will study the history of the people of the God.
- We will consider the covenant and promises God made with Abraham.



Stephen's Defense

Acts 7:1 – 53

1 And the high priest said, "Are these things so?"

Acts 7:1 (ESV)



A history of the nation of Israel – Part 1

Acts 7:1 – 34

2 And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, 3 and said to him, Go out from your land and from your kindred and go into the land that I will show you.’ 4 Then he went out from the land of the Chaldeans and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living.

Acts 7:2 – 4 (ESV)

1 Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Genesis 12:1 – 3 (ESV)

3 Promises of God to Abraham:

- A Land Promise
- A Great Nation Promise
- A Blessing to all Nations Promise

3 Promises Fulfilled:

in a Physical World:

- A Land Promise – THE LAND OF CANAAN
- A Great Nation Promise – THE NATION OF ISRAEL
- A Blessing to all Nations Promise – JESUS CHRIST

in a Spiritual World:

- A Land Promise – HEAVEN
- A Great Nation Promise – THE CHURCH
- A Blessing to all Nations Promise – THE SACRIFICIAL BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST

5 Yet he gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him as a possession and to his offspring after him, though he had no child. 6 And God spoke to this effect—that his offspring would be sojourners in a land belonging to others, who would enslave them and afflict them four hundred years.

Acts 7:5 – 6 (ESV)

40 The time that the people of Israel lived in Egypt was 430 years. 41 At the end of 430 years, on that very day, all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.

Exodus 12:40 – 41 (ESV)

7 'But I will judge the nation that they serve,' said God, 'and after that they shall come out and worship me in this place.' 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.

Acts 7:7 – 8 (ESV)

9 And God said to Abraham, “As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. 10 This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. 11 You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. 12 He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring, 13 both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant.

Genesis 17:9 – 13 (ESV)

The image features a dark gray background with a decorative pattern of overlapping semi-circles in various shades of blue. A horizontal white band runs across the middle of the image, containing the text "To be continued in our next study...".

To be continued in our next study...