

## Stephen and his accusers.

### Acts. Ch. 7.

Who was Stephen? He was apparently a Hellenistic Jew. His record is given in Acts 6.

1. Stephen, a man full of faith and of the H. Ghost. 6.5.
2. Stephen full of faith. did great wonders. 6.8.
3. They of the synagogue... Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and Asia disputing with Stephen. 6.9.
4. They were not able to resist his wisdom 6.10.

The outcome of it all was a series of charges. Note:

#### 1. Note the witnesses.

They were suborned. 6.11.

Stirred up the people. 6.12.

False witnesses. 6.13.

#### 2. Compare the prisoner.

Note his spirit. 6.10.

Note his wisdom and power. 6.10

Note his appearance. 6.15.

#### 3. The charges made against him, and which he answers.

He speaks blasphemy agst Moses and God. 6.11.

He speaks blasphemy agst holy place and law. 6.13.

He says Jesus of Naz. will destroy this place, and shall change customs Moses gave us. 6.14.

### The Argument of Stephen in Acts Ch. 7.

#### I. God's dealing with Israel was a progressive one.

1. Abram was delayed in Haran, where he dwelt some time. When he arrived, he had the promise, but not the land. Circumcision as a covenant delayed till end. v.8.
2. Joseph summons his brethren to Egypt. Note how few they are. 75 in all. They are few until "time of promise draws near. cf. v. 17.
3. Moses is also a case in point. When he came, the people were not ready. They would not receive him. They had to wait 40 years. v. 30.

#### II. The Temple is not exclusively holy. vs 48-50.

1. God appeared to Abram in Mesopotamia. v.2. Note the use of the word "God of Glory".