



Acts: To the Ends of the Earth

Acts 7:1-8:3

Introduction

Blasphemy against God

Blasphemy against the Temple

- ❖ Ephesians 2:3—*by nature children of wrath,*
- ❖ 2 Corinthians 4:6—*For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*
- ❖ 2 Corinthians 5:18—*All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ*

1. Abraham (2-8)

- ❖ Acts 7:2—*...Brothers and fathers*
- ❖ Acts 7:2—*The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia*

2. Joseph (9-16)

- ❖ Acts 7:9—*God was with him and rescued him out of all his afflictions and gave him favor and wisdom before Pharaoh, king of Egypt*
- ❖ John 1:11—*He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.*

3. Moses (17-43)

(1) The first 40 years (17-22)

(2) The next 40 years (23-29)

- ❖ Deuteronomy 18:15—*The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—*

(3) The last 40 years (30-42)

❖ Acts 7:33-34

- ❖ Acts 7:35—*Who made you a ruler and a judge?*

- ❖ Mark 11:28—*"By what authority are you doing these things, or who gave you this authority to do them?"*

4. David and Solomon (44-50)

- ❖ Acts 7:48-50



Acts: To the Ends of the Earth

Acts 7:1-8:3

Blasphemy against the Law

❖ **Acts 7:51-53**

The Response to Stephen's Witness

❖ **Acts 7:54-8:3**

1. The costliness of standing for truth

- ❖ Acts 8:1—*there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered*
- ❖ 1 Corinthians 1:18—*For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing*
- ❖ Matthew 10:34-39—*Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it*

2. The reward for standing for truth

- ❖ Psalm 16:11—*in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore*
- ❖ Philippians 3:7-11—*But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 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 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead*