

Stephen's Witness and Jesus' Glory

Sermon Outline: Sunday, February 4th, 2024

Introduction

The power of testimony

Big Point:

The boldness of the Holy Spirit will always elevate one message.

I. Stephen's Profile (Acts 6:8-15)

- A. Full of grace and power (verse 8)
- B. Wisdom of the Holy Spirit (verse 10)
- C. Angelic in likeness (verse 15)

Apply — *Do I bear the likeness of Jesus?*

II. Stephen's Sermon (Acts 7:2-50)

- A. **The Land**- was not ultimate (verses 2-34)

— *The land was not the center of God's relationship with His people— Jesus is*

- 1. Abraham- God's call came from Mesopotamia (Ur)
- 2. Joseph and Jacob- God's provision was in Egypt
- 3. Moses- God's commissioning happened in Midian

- B. **The Law**- was not ultimate (verses 35-43)

— *The law was not the means to God's relationship with His people— Jesus is*

- 1. Moses spoke beyond the law to a Man (vs.37)
- 2. Moses prefigured Jesus in His rejection

- C. **The Tabernacle (Temple)**- was not ultimate (verses 44-50)

— *The temple was not center of God's presence and power for His people— Jesus is*

- 1. The tabernacle anticipated more than the temple
- 2. The temple was a concession, "David's house."

Apply — *What things have I made "ultimate" instead of Christ?*

III. Stephen's Warning and Glory (Acts 7:51-60)

A. Warning:

1. Stiff-necked- (Exodus 33:5 & Deuteronomy 9:13)
2. Hard-hearted- (Leviticus 26:41; Deuteronomy 10:16; Jeremiah 4:4, 9:26)
3. Resistant to the Holy Spirit- (Isaiah 63:10 & Zechariah 17:12)
4. Receiving but neglecting the Word of God

Jesus STANDING not SEATED- Acts 7:56

Apply — *Will I receive the welcome of Jesus?*

IV. Transition to Communion