

Lesson 4
The Book of Acts

Lesson 4.) Stephen's defense and subsequent Martyrdom (Acts 6-8)

1.) (Acts 6:8-22) Stephen is seized

Why was Stephen seized? _____

What were the charges against Stephen? _____

How is Jesus referred to by the accusers? _____

2.) (Acts 7:1-53) Stephen's defense

Stephen's defense sounds like a history lesson. What are some key points in Israel's history that he refers to? _____

List some key parallels between Stephen's history lesson and Jesus _____

3.) (Acts 7:54-60) Stephen's Martyrdom

What was the council's response to Stephen's defense? _____

In what way did God reveal himself to Stephen prior to his martyrdom? _____

What is Stephen's concern during his martyrdom? _____

What do we know about Saul's participation in Stephen's martyrdom? _____

4.) (Acts 8:1-3) Resulting persecution: Saul is introduced

What was the benefit to the Kingdom of God of this persecution? _____

What did Stephen's martyrdom embolden Paul to do? _____

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Homework

Analyze Stephen's sermon (Acts 7:1-53)

Who is the intended audience? _____

What information is provided in the sermon? _____

How does Stephen connect the gospel to the current events? _____

What action does he require of his listeners? _____

What Old Testament scriptures does he use? _____

What do the scriptures explain? _____

What surprises you about Stephen's message? _____

What were the results of the sermon? _____