

Scripture

Acts 7

²⁰ "At that time Moses was born, and he was no ordinary child. For three months he was cared for by his family. ²¹ When he was placed outside, Pharaoh's daughter took him and brought him up as her own son. ²² Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action.

⁴⁴ "Our ancestors had the tabernacle of the covenant law with them in the wilderness. It had been made as God directed Moses, according to the pattern he had seen. ⁴⁵ After receiving the tabernacle, our ancestors under Joshua brought it with them when they took the land from the nations God drove out before them. It remained in the land until the time of David, ⁴⁶ who enjoyed God's favor and asked that he might provide a dwelling place for the God of Jacob. ⁴⁷ But it was Solomon who built a house for him.

⁴⁸ "However, the Most High does not live in houses made by human hands. As the prophet says:

⁴⁹ "Heaven is my throne,

and the earth is my footstool.

What kind of house will you build for me? says the Lord.

Or where will my resting place be?

⁵⁰ Has not my hand made all these things?"

⁵¹ "You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit!

⁵² Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him—

⁵³ you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it."

The Stoning of Stephen

⁵⁴ When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Study Questions

Monday:

What stood out to you this week from Pastor Kevin's message?

Tuesday:

Read carefully vv. 20-22. What details do we learn about the life of Moses?

Wednesday:

Stephen spends considerable time talking about Moses. Why? (Look back at the original charges brought against him.)

Thursday:

In vv. 44-47, Stephen turns his attention to the "holy place" and worship. What does Stephen say about the tabernacle?

What was the purpose of the tabernacle and the temple?

Friday:

Stephen's tone changes in verse 51. What does Stephen mean when he says they are a stiff-necked people?

What does it mean to have an uncircumcised heart and ears?

What does it mean to resist the Holy Spirit?

Can you remember a time when you resisted the Holy Spirit? Why did you?

TODAY @ THE FLIPSIDE

The Struggle is Real Growing Pains of the Church

Speaker: Pastor Kevin Reynolds

Notes: