

Acts 7

Lesson 15

Time Frame of Chapter 7

- Events immediately follow the accusations made against Stephen in Acts 6:8-15.
- Acts 7 records Stephen's defense of himself in the face of these false accusations. Took place somewhere near the conversion of Saul (Acts 9), which has been placed at 34 A.D.

Stephen's Address (1-53)

- The Call of Abraham. From Abraham to the Patriarchs. (1-8)
- The Patriarchs in Egypt. A summary of Joseph and his brothers, the sons of Jacob (Israel). (9-16)
- God Delivers Israel by Moses. Sent by God (vs. 35). (17-36)
- Israel Rebels Against God. In their hearts they "turned back to Egypt (vs. 39). (37-43)
- God's True Tabernacle. Not the tabernacle or temple. Heaven itself (vs. 49). (44-50)
- Israel Resists the Holy Spirit. As their fathers did in the past, they now do in rejecting Jesus. (51-53)

Stephen the Martyr (54-60)

- The Jews were extremely angered at Stephen's address. (54)
- The witness of Jesus, witnessed by Stephen. (55-56)
- The Jews cast Stephen out of the city, and stone him to death. (57-58a)
- Saul of Tarsus present at Stephen's stoning. Introduced in the N.T. for the first time (58b)
- Stephen's demeanor during the stoning was one of peacefulness. His love for the Jews led to his famous words, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." (59-60)
- Stephen dies. "He fell asleep." (60)

Student Notes: