



## Tell Me the Story of Jesus

## Lesson 31 – Acts 07

### People — Who is involved?

*The High Priests allows Stephen to speak to the Council.  
Stephen addresses the Council and is stoned.  
Jesus stands at the right hand of God  
Saul is introduced at Stephen's execution.*

### Places — Where does it happen?

*Jerusalem*

### Pearls — What information will help me to understand better?

*Vs 1 – The story of Abraham's life is found in Genesis 11:27 – 25:11.  
Vs 9 – The story of Joseph and the salvation of Jacob's family from famine is found in Genesis 37-50.  
Vs 17 – The story of Israel's bondage in Egypt and deliverance under Moses is found in Exodus 1-20.  
Vs 30 – Moses was in Egypt forty years; in Midian forty years; and in the Wilderness forty years.  
Vs 37 – This is recorded in Deuteronomy 18:15-19 (see also Acts 3:22).  
Vs 40 – The story of the golden calf is found in Exodus 32 (see also Deut. 9; esp. v. 16).  
Vs 42 – Notice how Stephen returns to how the Israelites failed God by not worshiping properly.  
Vs 44 – This begins Stephen's summary and application to these present religious leaders.  
Vs 48 – This verse is the theme statement of Stephen's sermon (see Acts 17:24-29 and John 4:21-24).  
Vs 49 – This quotation is from Isaiah 66:1-2.  
Vs 51 – "Stiff-necked" equals stubborn. They were circumcised in flesh but not in their hearts; i.e., they would not pay attention to God and allow all else to be excised from their minds.  
Vs 54 – They were angered and bared their teeth (figuratively, like animals) in rage.  
Vs 55 – This is the only time the Bible speaks of Jesus "standing" at God's right hand.  
He apparently does it here to show approval of a faithful servant's defense of Him.  
Vs 56 – Stephen is allowed to see Jesus and tell the people. That further angers them.  
Vs 57 – After this, they take him out of the city and stone him.  
Vs 58 – Saul is the Saul of Tarsus, later the apostle Paul, who will be a leading figure in the story.  
Vs 60 – Stephen's words are reminiscent of Jesus' words of forgiveness on the cross (Luke 23:34) and Paul's later forgiveness of those who forsook him (2 Tim. 4:16).*

### Perspectives — What may I learn from this chapter?

- 1. The history of the Jews points to God's fulfillment of all His promises in Jesus Christ.*
- 2. Even religious people may become hard hearted and refuse to hear the word of God.*
- 3. In following Jesus' and Stephen's example, we should forgive our enemies (Matt. 5:44).*