

## ACTS 7; October 8; Deacon Stephen Is Stoned To Death

### ANALYSIS:

1. With what O. T. saint does Stephen begin to trace God's dealings with Israel? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many years did Stephen say Israel would be in bondage to another nation? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What are the three periods of 40 years each referred to in Moses' life?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. In Stephens's sermon who did he say Israel had resisted \_\_\_\_\_, and who had they betrayed and murdered? \_\_\_\_\_
5. After the Christ-rejecting Jews had interrupted Stephen's sermon, what three statements come from Stephen before he dies? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

There are three recorded manifestations of the glorified Christ: to Stephen (Acts 7:55-56), to Paul (Acts 9:3-6; cf 9:58 with 8:1), to John (Rev 1:10-16). Stephen, the first Christian martyr, was remarkably like his Lord. He was filled with the Spirit and did great wonders and signs among the people. Like Christ, he was accused of speaking against Moses, the law and the temple. He was charged with blasphemy by false accusers before the Sanhedrin condemned him to death. He gave witness to our Lord's confession that He was to be exalted at God's right hand. He, like Jesus, prayed for his enemies' forgiveness and that his spirit would be received into heaven.

What does our Lord command us to do toward those who persecute us? "Resist not evil; but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right check, turn to him the other also. Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven" (Matt 5:39, 44-45). [Understand the word "be" in the line above as: prove to be, demonstrate yourselves to be, manifest yourselves as].

### HELP:

1. Abraham (v 2).
2. 400 years (v 6).
3. Growing up in Pharaoh's house until he was 40 years old (vs 20-23); Fleeing from Egypt to live in the land of Madian as a shepherd for 40 years (vs 29-30); Leading Israel from Egypt and in the wilderness for 40 years (v 36).
4. The Holy Ghost (v 51); The Just One [Jesus] (v 52).
5. "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God," "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit," "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge" (vs 56, 59-60).