

Stephen Defends His View of God (Acts 7:1-16) 11/26/23

Introduction

To reach the world effectively with the gospel, believers must be able to _____ our faith.

_____ (from the Greek word *apologia*) is the study of the defense of the faith. It has two aspects to it:

1. defending the faith against _____
2. presenting _____ of Christianity to unbelievers

Notes on how Stephen was a master apologist:

Stephen's Opening Argument (vv. 1-4)

[Are these things so?](#) refers to all the _____ accusations regarding Stephen speaking against: Moses and God, the _____ and the Law. The high priest was asking how he _____ to the charges against him.

Stephen addresses the most _____ allegation first: the accusation of blasphemy against _____.

Notes on the title [the God of glory](#):

He takes them all the way back to the beginning of Israel as a _____: to Abraham, when he was still a _____; when he did not even know who _____ was!

Notes:

In v. 4, Stephen recounts Abram's faithful, _____ response to God.

In his opening line, Stephen was _____ that he was neither a blasphemer of God nor a _____ to his people.

Stephen Recites God's Covenant with Abraham (vv. 5-8)

Next, Stephen affirmed his belief in God's covenant _____ to Abraham and His sovereign control of Israel's _____.

Stephen emphasizes that Abraham was a man of _____. God wanted Abram to be completely _____ on Him.

[give \(didomi\)](#) =

Notes on God's covenant acts toward Abraham:

Stephen Reviews the Sins of the Patriarchs (vv. 9-16)

By selling him into slavery, Joseph's brothers _____ the very one God had set apart for special _____.

Their deeds were a fitting illustration of the nation's spiritual _____ manifested in the case of _____.

The nation's rebellion against God thus began with the _____ themselves!

Glimpses of Christ found in Stephen's opening historical narration: