

Lesson 16: Opening Chapters of Acts: Stephen

1. Marvelous Phenomena (Acts 6:9ff = synagogue (1yr) time period is up)
 - i. Stephen angel (:15 - Every ruler had the undeniable proof there was a messenger of God in their midst)
 - ii. Testimony (7:13 -Joseph and 7:25, 27, 35 - Moses)
 - iii. Remained stiff-necked (7:51-60)

Prophets Regarding "Standing"

- Death, Burial, Resurrection, Ascension to Father's Right Hand (Sit)
- Sit until enemies made His footstool
 - Psalm 110:1
 - Matt. 22:44
 - Acts 2:35
 - Heb. 1:13; 10:13
- Arise/Standing
 - Psalm 2
 - Psalm 68:1-4
 - Isa. 2:11ff (:19 = ariseth)
 - Isa. 3:11ff (:13 = standeth up to plead and judge)
 - Rev. 19:10-12, "doth judge and make war"
- War
 - Isa. 31:4-5
 - Isa. 42:13-15
 - Isa. 66:15-16
 - Zech. 14:1-3
- Acts 8
 - Review Propheesied time of "repentance to Israel"
 - Acts 2-7
 - Great significance of what's recorded in Acts 8
 - God's program should be continuing on as scheduled
 - God's program and the expected events and activities prophesied about do not begin to transpire as recorded in Acts 8
 - Testifies to the fact that God did not do what was expected

 - Unexpected events and unusual activities began to transpire
 - The next course of prophesied and scheduled events and activities in His Pw/I don't come
 - God starts doing things "not according to the program" and by doing so makes it evident that His Pw/I was not continuing on as prophesied and not only doing something different from what had been expected, but that he was doing something that was entirely different.

Special Things to Happen that Don't

- Instructed where to go in their evangelism, and
- Precisely when they were to go there during the remainder of the climactic stage to Israel
- Commissions

- They were to "go into all the world" - Mark 16:15

- And "go to all nations" - Matt. 28:19
- Yet, they were not told to do so haphazardly or randomly or all at once (particular and specific order)

Order

- Luke 24:47 - "beginning in Jerusalem"
- Acts 1:8 they would be "beginning in Jerusalem"
- Then "all Judea", then "Samaria", and then "unto the uttermost part of the earth."
- Expansion of their ministry that coincide with specific prophetic events and signs which give them indication to expand and move to the next area for evangelism.

Acts 8:1

- Church at Jerusalem
- Acts 15, still at Jerusalem
- Nor prophesied signs and events begin that would indicate the start of the final installment in the program or those that would tell them to leave Jerusalem and move into all Judea.

- Acts 9
- Ephesians 2-3

2nd Coming to the Body of Christ

- 1 Cor. 15:58
 - 1 The. 4:13-5:4
 - o Matt. 23 (mount of Olives- Zech. 14:4)
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