

# ACTS OF GOD

*Acts 6:8-15*

**Let's All Be Filled-Up Ministers  
and Straight-Up Martyrs**

*Three encouragements from the life and ministry of just a  
regular guy named Stephen*

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## *Acts 6:8-15*

<sup>8</sup> And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup> Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. <sup>10</sup> But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. <sup>11</sup> Then they secretly instigated men who said, “We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.”

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<sup>12</sup> And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, <sup>13</sup> and they set up false witnesses who said, “This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law, <sup>14</sup> for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us.” <sup>15</sup> And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

# *1. Every believer is called to and equipped for Holy Spirit empowered ministry.*

- Every believer is called to be a minister of the Gospel.
- Miracles are not meant to be unique to pastors, priests, prophets, or apostles.
- You are full of the Holy Spirit, now let's get filled by the Holy Spirit.

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## *2. Our lives should be forfeited to Jesus long before we may have to become actual martyrs.*

- We are called to die to selves daily, to take up our crosses and follow Jesus.
- We are meant to be true martyrs not false witnesses.
- Being a martyr for Jesus is not about how we die but how we live and whether we live for Him.

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*3. Stephen, just a regular guy who loved the Lord  
and was led by the Spirit, shined like Jesus,  
and so can you.*

- By the Holy Spirit, a normal guy like Stephen did great wonders and signs, and so can you.
- By the Holy Spirit, a normal guy like Stephen spoke with anointing, and so can you.
- By the Holy Spirit, a normal guy like Stephen shined like Jesus, and so can you.

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