

# Message Notes

for today's message on . . .

*"Stephen - the man with the face of an angel, pt 1"*

# Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction - "got old?"

*"Who is this Stephen guy?"*

6 characteristics about Stephen

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

*"How can we get rid of this trouble maker?"*

- 1.
- 2.

*Accusations against Stephen:*

- 1.
- 2.

Reason for these :

*Displays the huge differences between classical Judaism and biblical Christianity:*

- 1.
- 2.

*How did all this work out?*

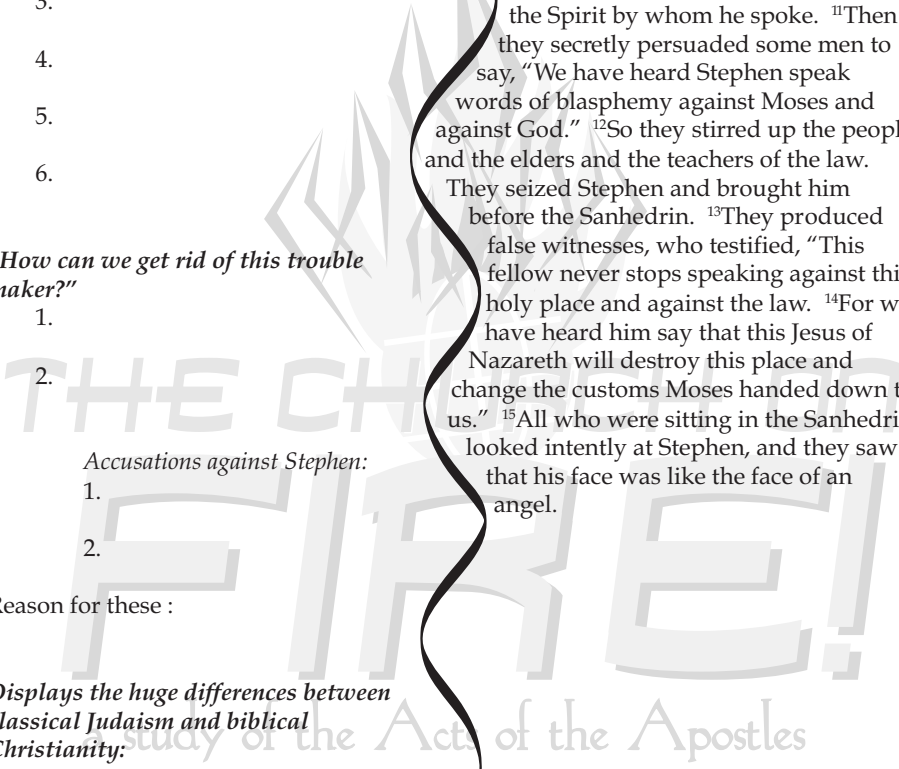
Application - "got faith?"

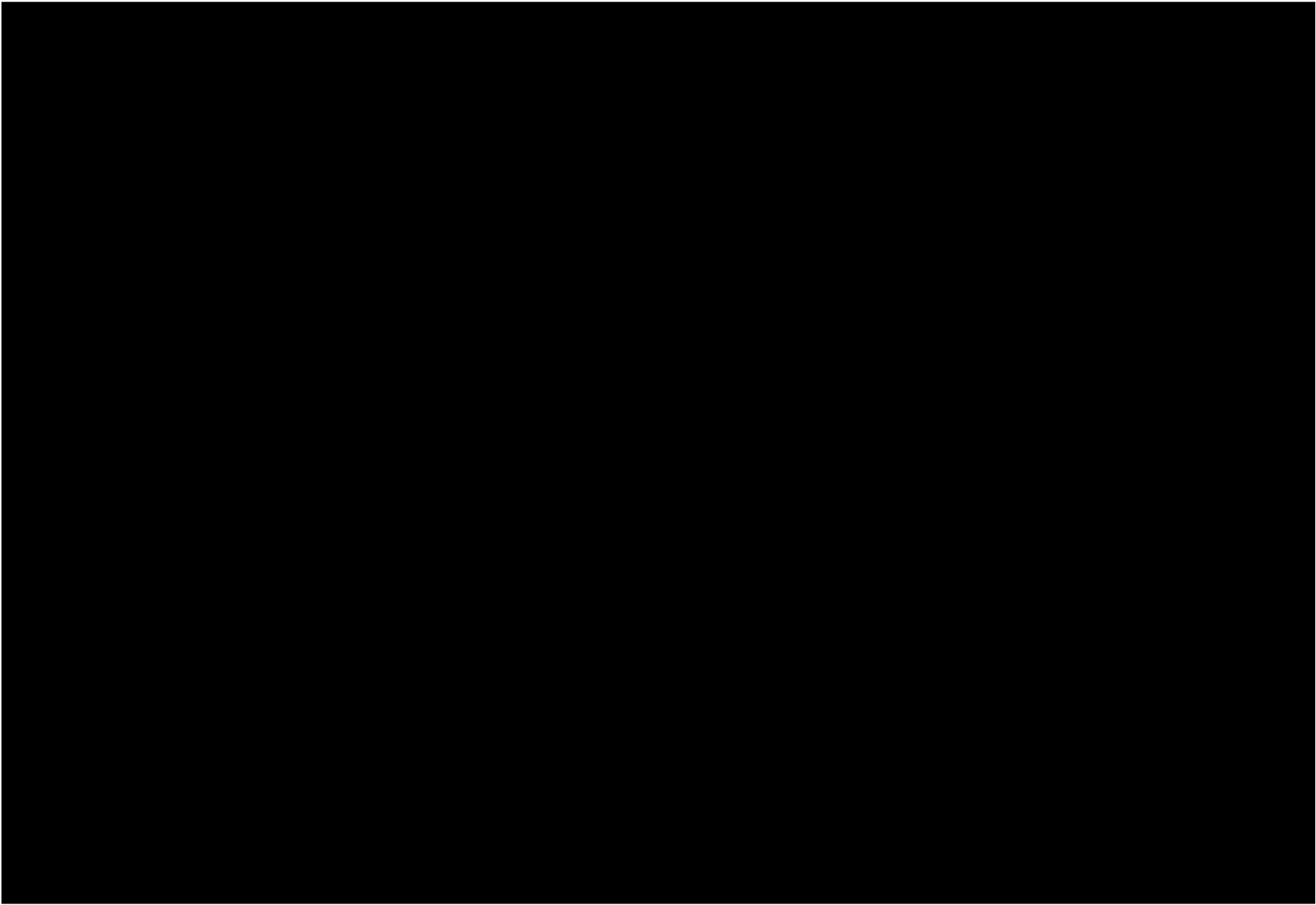
**Acts 6:8-15**

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<sup>9</sup>Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called) — Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia. These men began to argue with Stephen,<sup>10</sup>but they could not stand up against his wisdom or the Spirit by whom he spoke. <sup>11</sup>Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, "We have heard Stephen speak words of blasphemy against Moses and against God." <sup>12</sup>So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law.

They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. <sup>13</sup>They produced false witnesses, who testified, "This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law. <sup>14</sup>For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us." <sup>15</sup>All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.





## Acts 6:1-15

<sup>1</sup>In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. <sup>2</sup>So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. <sup>3</sup>Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them <sup>4</sup>and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." <sup>5</sup>This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. <sup>6</sup>They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. <sup>7</sup>So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

## Acts 6:1-15 (cont'd)

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## John 2:18-22

<sup>18</sup>Then the Jews demanded of him, “What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?” <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.” <sup>20</sup>The Jews replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” <sup>21</sup>But the temple he had spoken of was his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

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